DRAWN TO FREEDOM

SKETCHES OF REVOLUTIONARY SOUTH CAROLINA

WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY MELINA TESTIN

SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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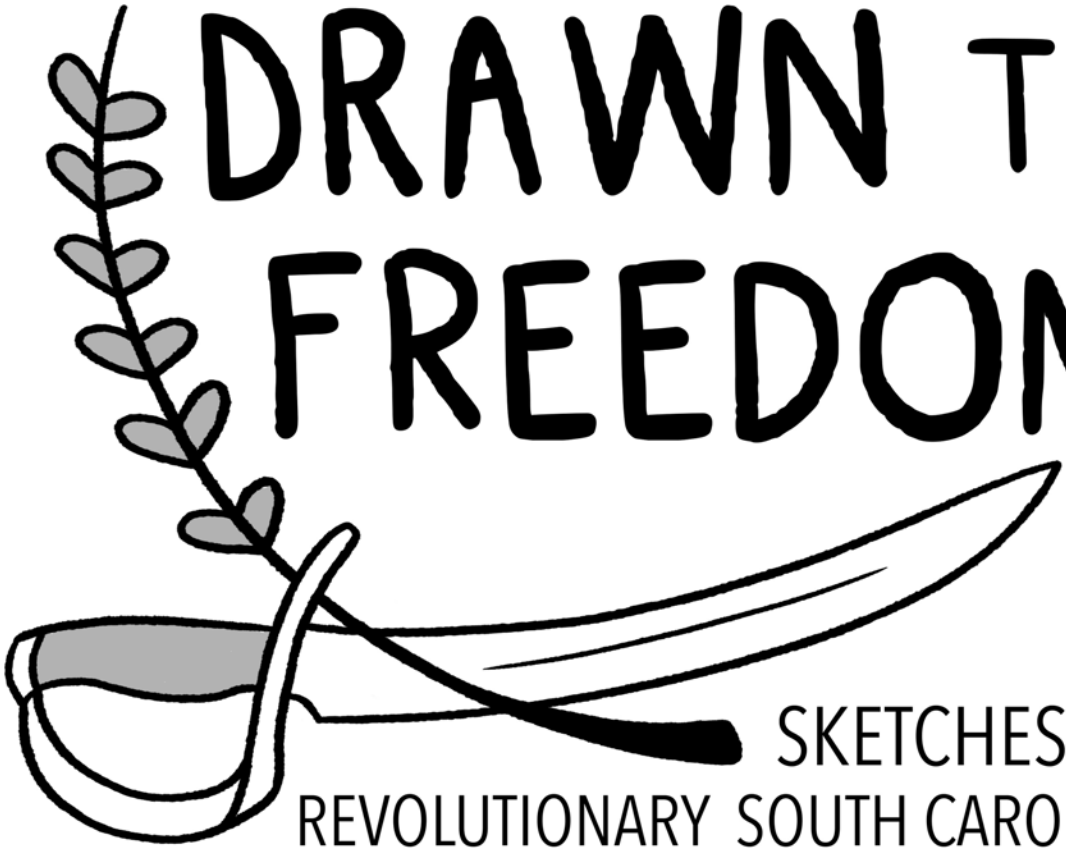
DRAWN TO FREEDOM



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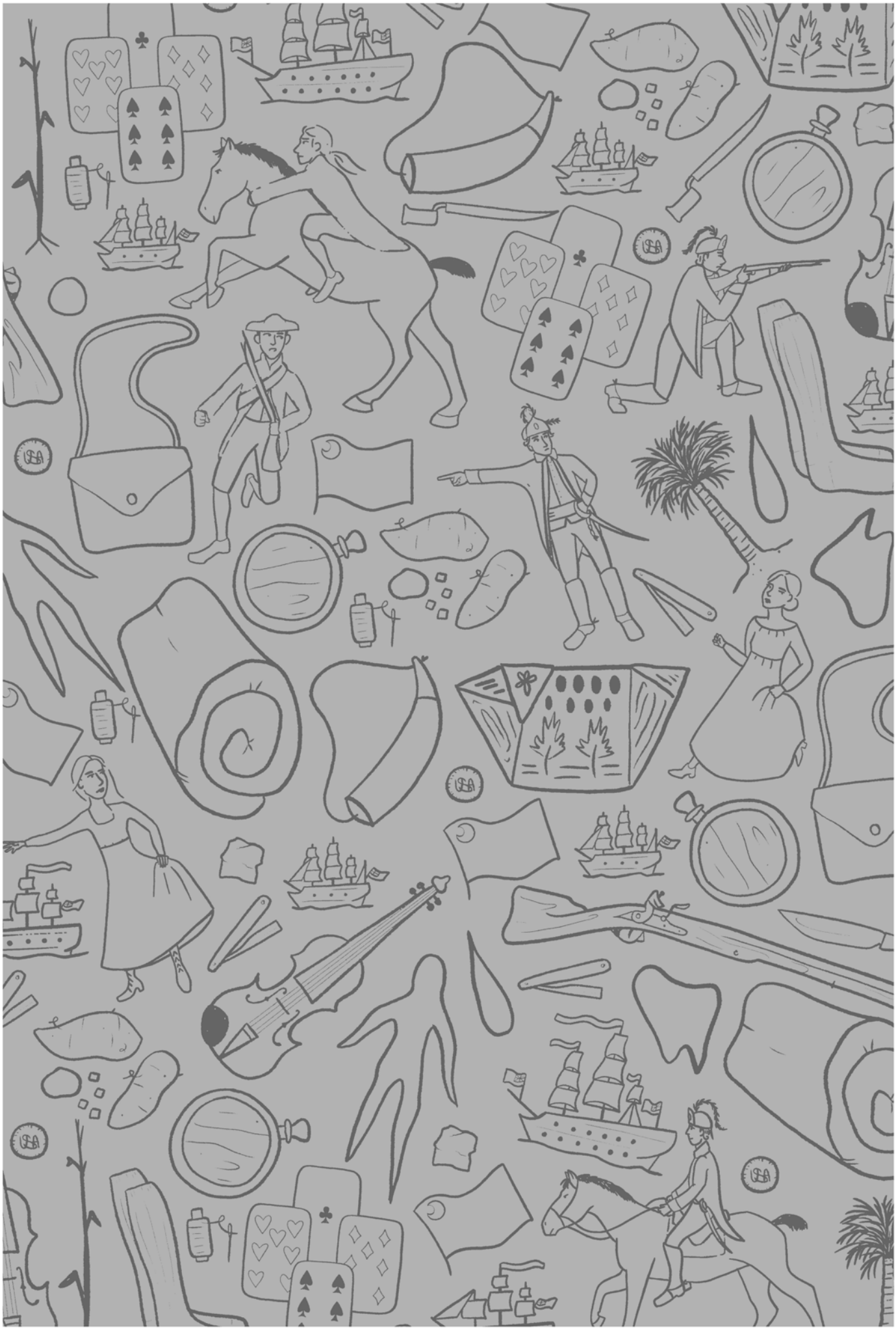
REVOLUTION ★★★ *to* ★★★ REPUBLIC



INTRODUCTION

SWORD & PEN

Tensions between the American Colonies and Great Britain erupted into war in the Spring of 1775.

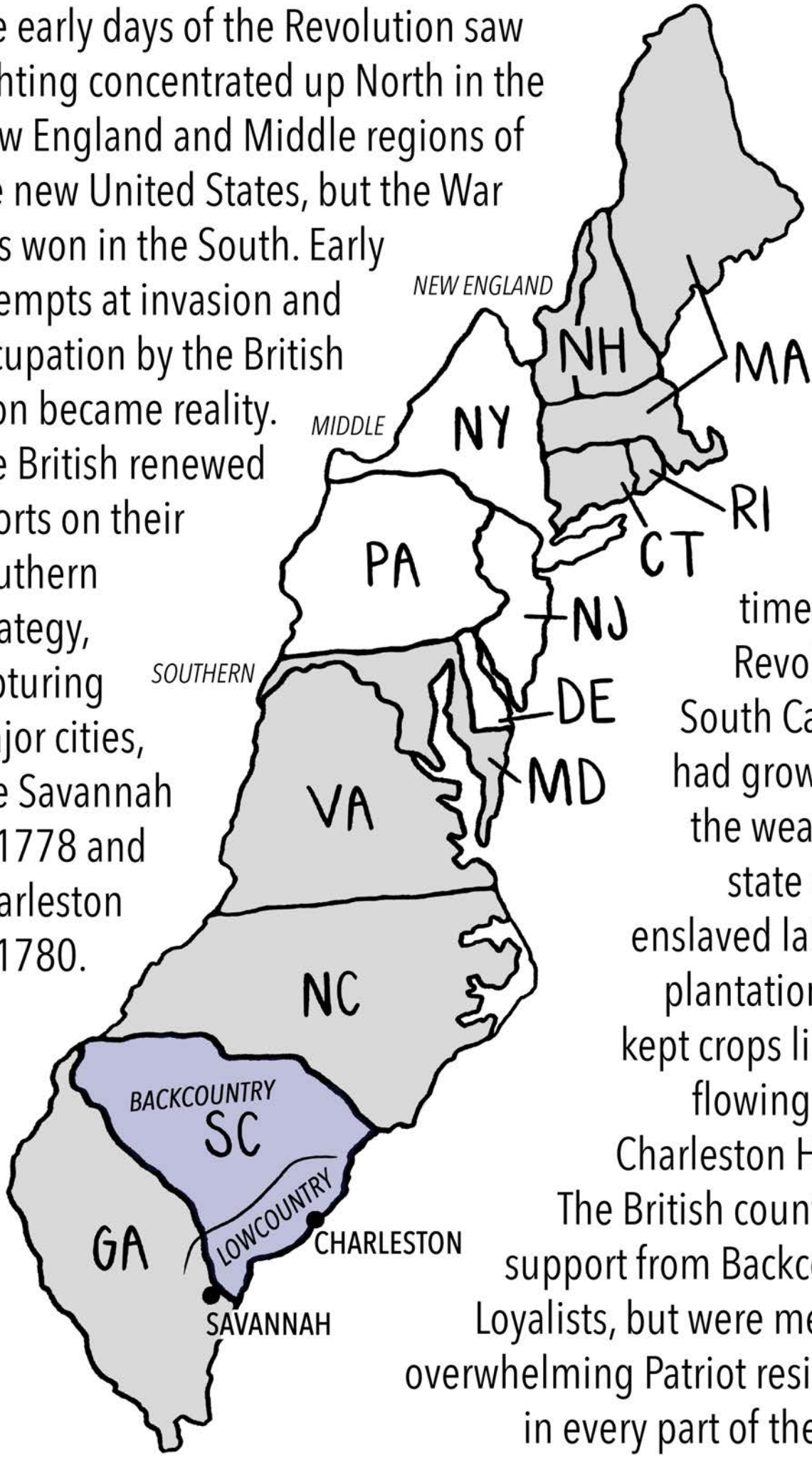
The Continental Congress presented the Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776, to outline ideals for a country in which all men are created equal, with the rights to

Life,

Liberty, and the

Pursuit of Happiness.

The early days of the Revolution saw fighting concentrated up North in the New England and Middle regions of the new United States, but the War was won in the South. Early attempts at invasion and occupation by the British soon became reality. The British renewed efforts on their Southern Strategy, capturing major cities, like Savannah in 1778 and Charleston in 1780.



By the time of the Revolution, South Carolina had grown into the wealthiest state due to enslaved labor on plantations that kept crops like rice flowing out of Charleston Harbor. The British counted on support from Backcountry Loyalists, but were met with overwhelming Patriot resistance in every part of the state.

More than 200 battles and skirmishes were fought on South Carolina soil, making it one of the hottest warzones in the country.

Soldiers like
William Jasper,

Women like
Eliza Wilkinson,

Enslaved People like
Oscar Marion,

Indigenous People like
Peter Harris,

and many others
joined the Patriot cause. Each
group faced unique challenges,
but all were **Drawn to Freedom.**

SC REVOLUTION TIMELINE

DECEMBER 1773
Charleston Tea Protest

SEPTEMER 1775
Royal Governor William Campbell flees South Carolina

NOVEMBER 1775
Battle of Ninety Six ends in truce

MARCH 1776
South Carolina Provincial Council adopts new state constitution

JUNE 1776
Battle of Sullivan's Island

FEBRUARY 1779
Battle of Port Royal Island

JUNE 1779
Eliza Wilkinson's plantation plundered

JUNE 1779
Battle of Stono Ferry

SEPTEMBER 1779
Siege of Savannah begins, William Jasper KIA

MARCH 1780
Siege of Charleston begins

APRIL 1780
Oscar and Francis Marion flee Charleston toward NC

AUGUST 1780
Battle of Camden

OCTOBER 1780
Battle of King's Mountain

JANUARY 1781
Battle of Cowpens

MAY 1781
Siege of Ninety Six

SEPTEMBER 1781
Battle of Eutaw Springs

OCTOBER 1781
British surrender at Yorktown, VA

DECEMBER 1782
British evacuate Charleston

SEPTEMBER 1783
Treaty of Paris

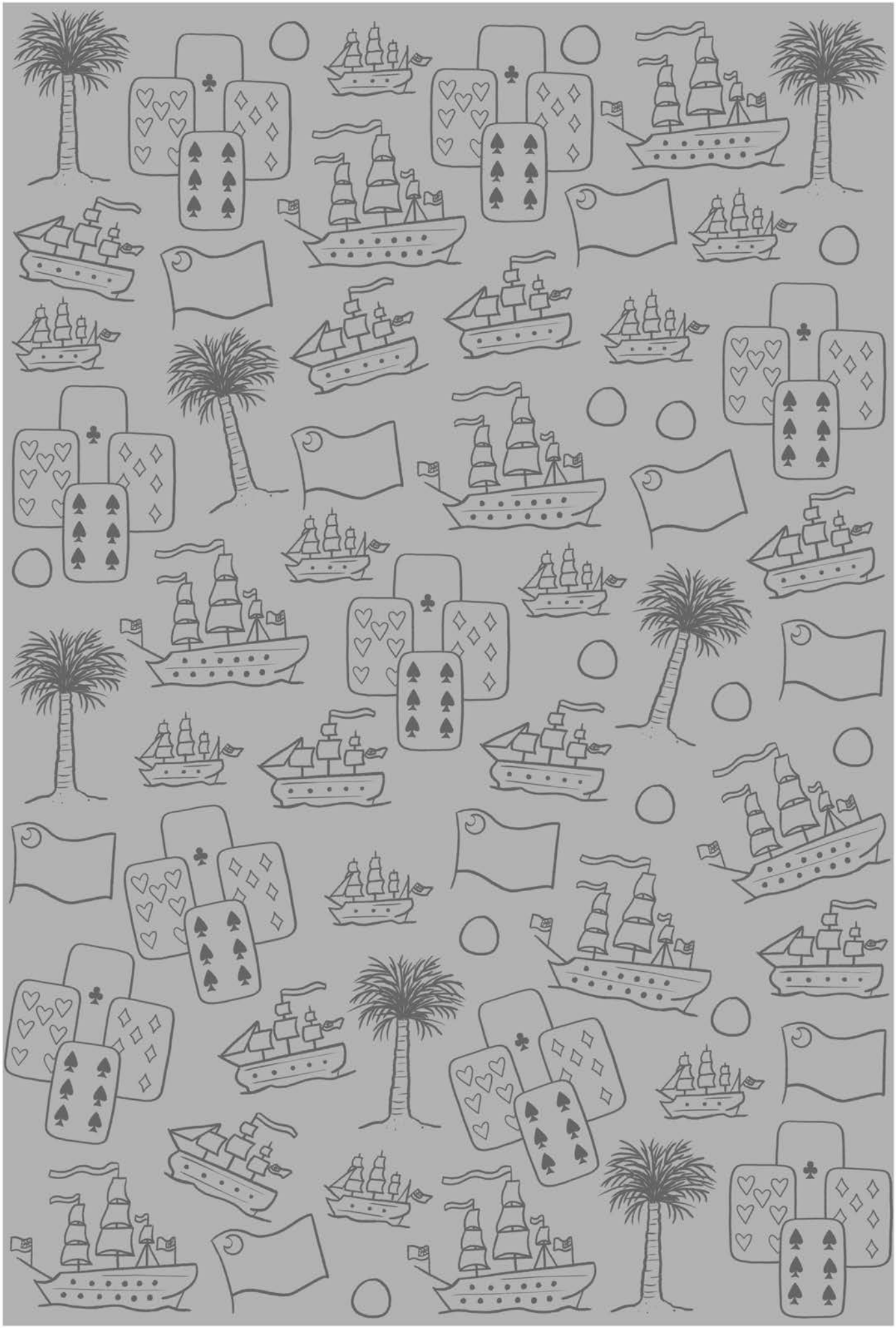
Unflagging Bravery
William Jasper 1

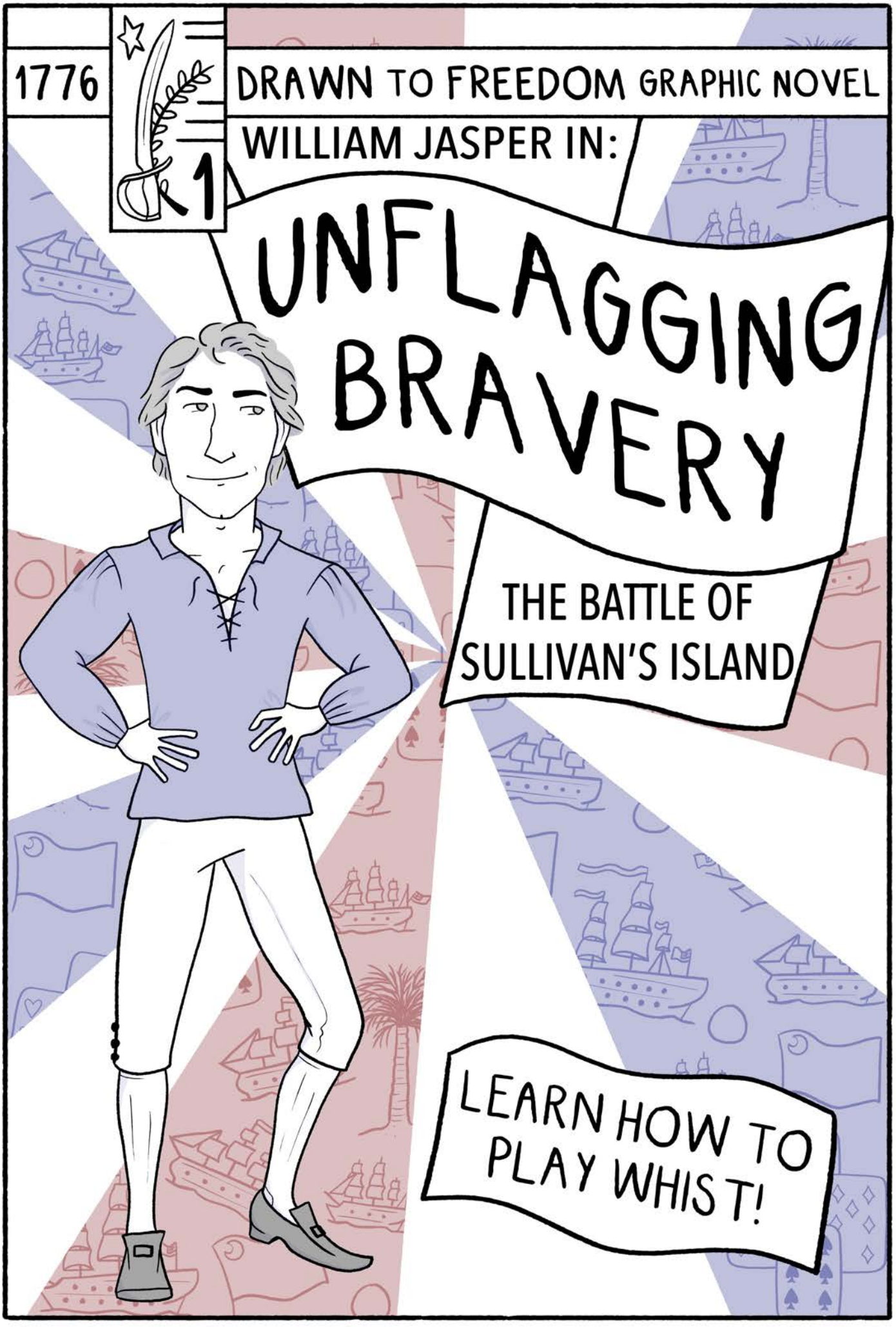
Bleeding Ink
Eliza Wilkinson 17

Supporting Role
Oscar Marion 31

Pledging Allowance
Peter Harris 43

Epilogue 53

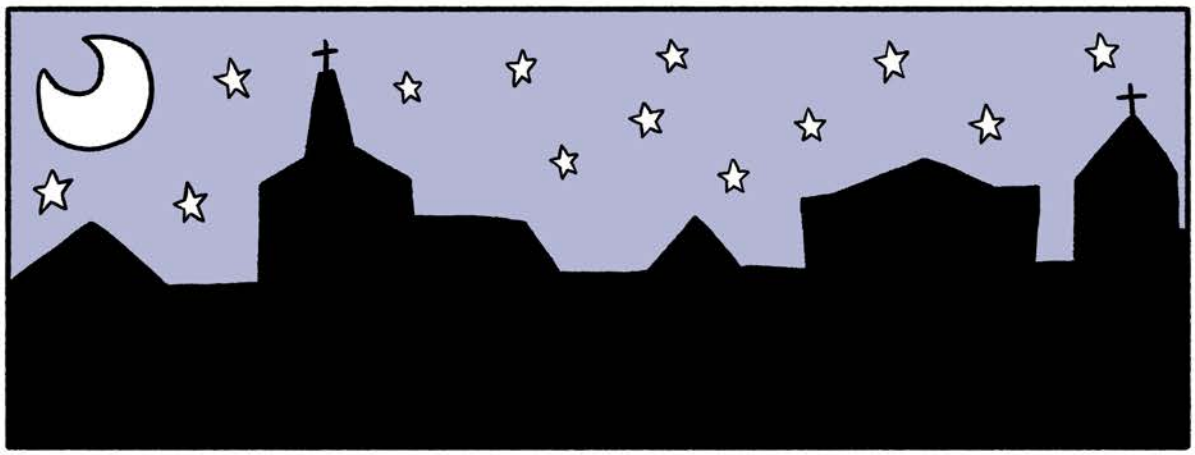



1776
DRAWN TO FREEDOM GRAPHIC NOVEL
1
WILLIAM JASPER IN:
UNFLAGGING BRAVERY
THE BATTLE OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND
LEARN HOW TO PLAY WHIST!

William Jasper enlisted in the 2d South Carolina Regiment at the age of 25 in 1775.

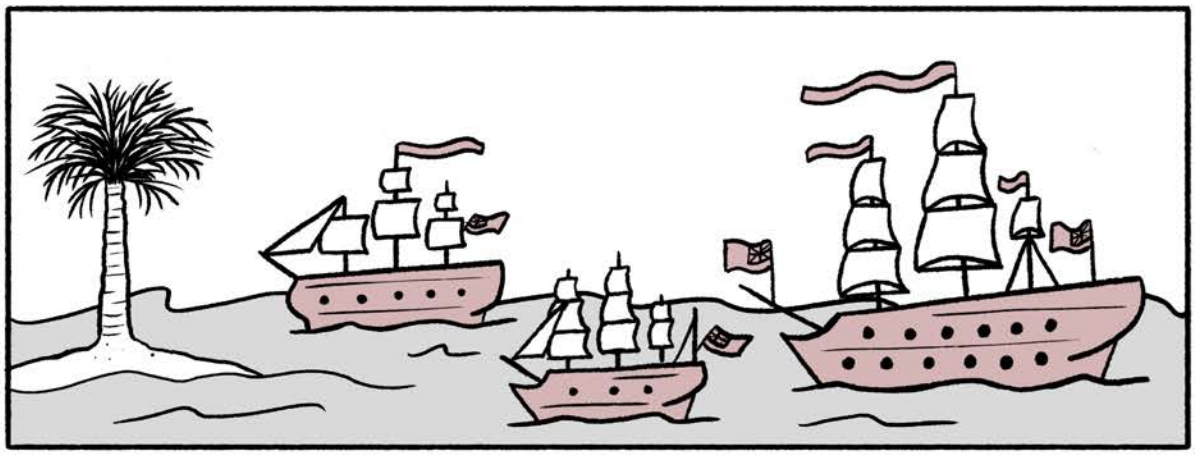
By the Summer of 1776, William was a Sergeant in the regiment, stationed in an unfinished fortress of palmetto logs and sand on Sullivan's Island as the British fleet approached Charleston Harbor...

The following account was recorded in the Order Book of the 4th South Carolina Regiment, an artillery regiment that served alongside the 2d at Sullivan's Island.



"As it now appears almost a certainty from the intelligence of some deserters, the enemy's intention is to make an attack on the city, and as General Charles Lee is confident that the number and spirit of the garrison will prevent their landing, it only remains to guard against the injury which the city may receive from their cannons. The Continental troops, provincials, and militia are therefore most earnestly conjured to work with not less alacrity, than fight with courage.

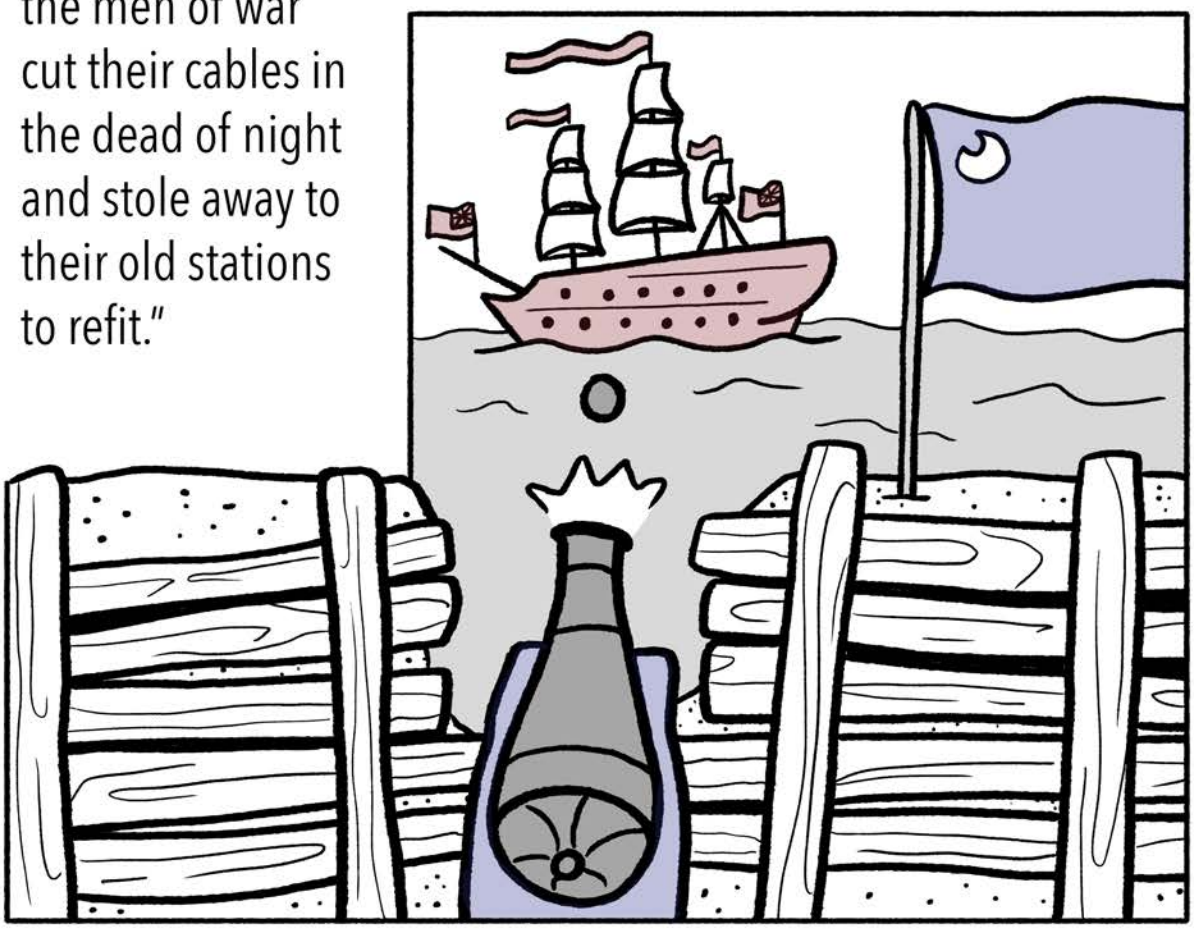
"True soldiers and magnanimous citizens must brandish the pick axe and spade, as well as the sword in defense of their country. One or two days' labor at this critical juncture may not only save many worthy families from ruin, but many worthy individuals from loss of limbs and life."

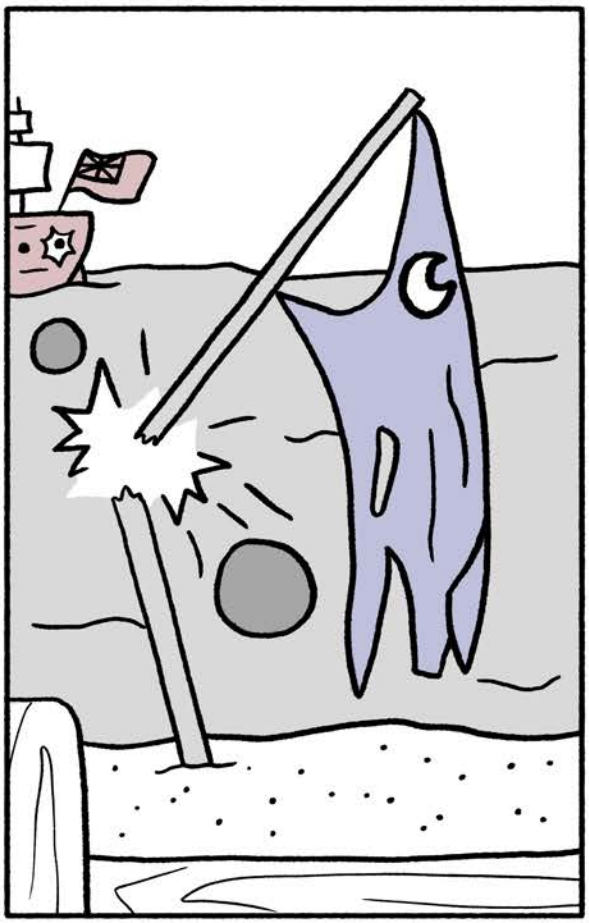


"Ten minutes before 11 o'clock, a bomb ship threw a bomb of 13 inches diameter into Fort Sullivan. It fell upon the magazine there, but did no considerable damage.

"The Fort fired as soon as the two 50 gun ships, *Bristol* and *Experiment,* came within distance alongside the *Siren,* which there made the first line. They immediately dropped anchor with springs on their cables and began a smart cannonade, which was returned with coolness and deliberation from the Fort. The second line of frigates supported the first, and an incessant fire was kept up till 11 o'clock at night when the ships, as well as the Fort, ceased firing.

"The Americans ceased firing because they had no more powder. The loss at the Fort was but ten men killed and 22 wounded, so wonderfully did God appear in our behalf that the men of war cut their cables in the dead of night and stole away to their old stations to refit."





"The flag staff being shot and the flag falling to the ground in the heat of the action, William called to Colonel Moultrie,

Colonel, don't let us fight without our color!

How can you help it?

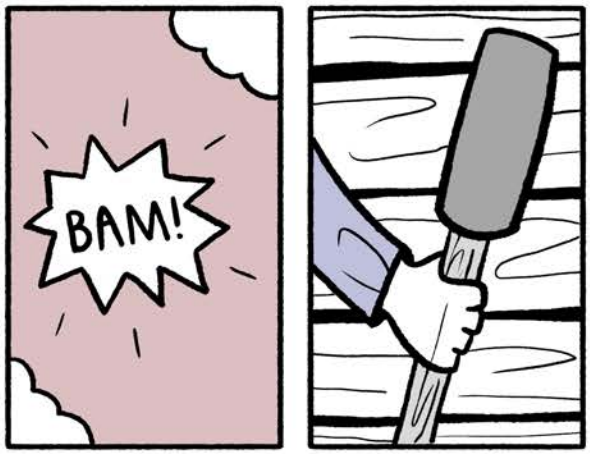
replied the Colonel

The staff is gone!

Then I'll replace it.

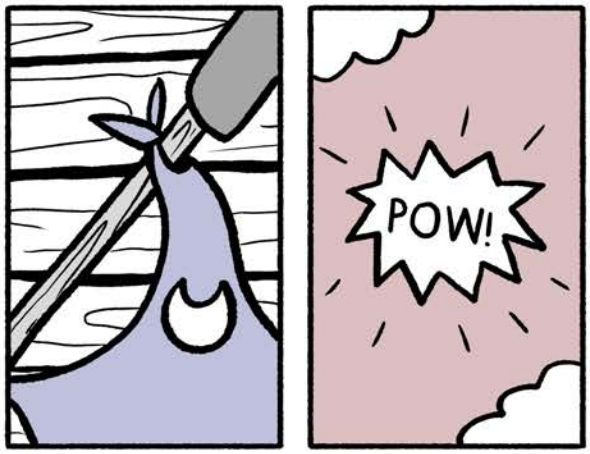
said William."

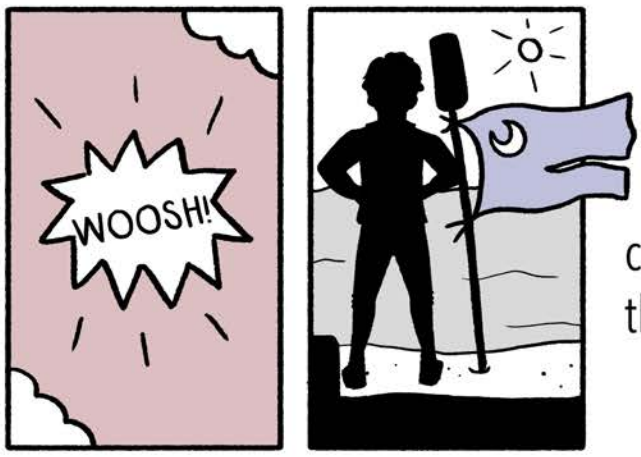
"Upon which he leaped over Sergeant McDaniel of Captain Huger's Company–a good and brave man, having his stomach and bowels shot away by a cannonball–called out in these words, which animated the soldiers that they fought, if possible, with double fury, and McDaniel died immediately.



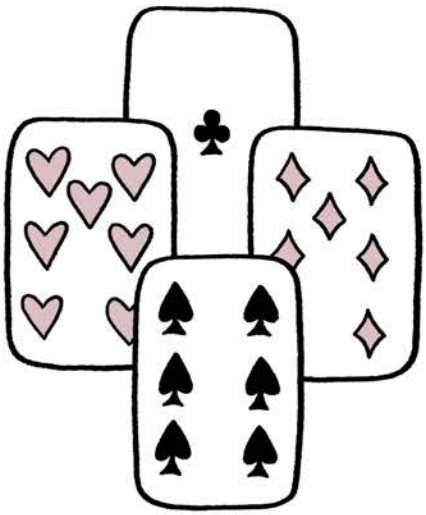
"William took the flag and tied it to a sponge staff and stuck it up on the merlon of the bastion next the enemy,

gave three Huzza's in the dangerous place he stood,





and retired to his gun where he fought with his gallant company to the end of the battle."



Whist was a popular card game played by soldiers in the 18th Century. Cut out the illustrated cards to follow along with the Battle of Sullivan's Island: play 'tricks' of four cards onto the battle map, and discuss the strengths of each to determine the winner.

Watch a video lecture on Battle of Sullivan's Island Whist:

a printable copy of this activity is available at schistory.org/education/resources

WHIST

To play Whist, you will need 4 Players and a standard deck of cards.

TRICK

A Trick is a set of 4 cards, 1 played by each Player.

ROUND

13 Tricks are played each Round.

TRUMP SUIT

Each Round has a different Trump Suit whose cards are valued higher than other suits: Hearts, Spades, Diamonds, Clubs, and No Trump.

SCORE

At the end of each Round, Teams add up the number of Tricks taken. For every Trick beyond 6, 1 point is awarded. Rounds continue until a Team wins by earning 7 points.

GAMEPLAY

Divide Players into 2 Teams of 2.

Deal 13 cards to each Player to begin the Round.

Player 1 may lay any card from their hand.

Players 2-4 must lay a card of the same suit if they have one in their hand, otherwise they may lay any card from their hand.

Once all 4 cards are laid, the Trick is taken by the Player who laid the highest card of the initial suit. If 1 or more cards of the Trump Suit were played, the Player who laid the highest Trump Card takes the Trick.

The Player who took the Trick lays the first card for the next Trick.

The Round continues for 12 more Tricks, until all cards have been laid.

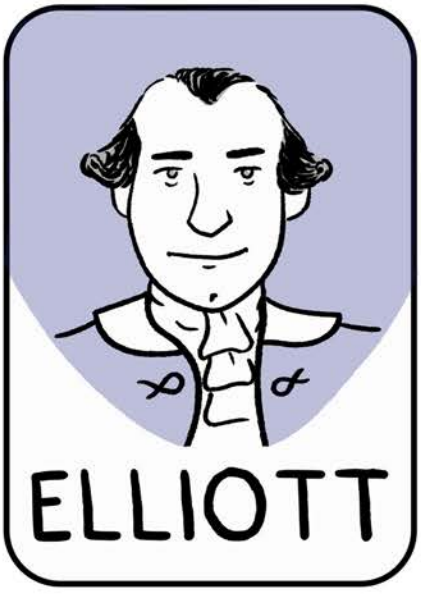
Total up the points for each Team.

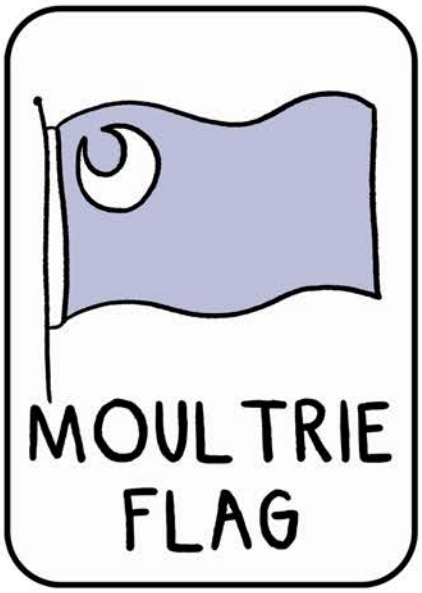
Rounds continue until a Team earns 7 points. The Trump Suit changes each round.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JASPER

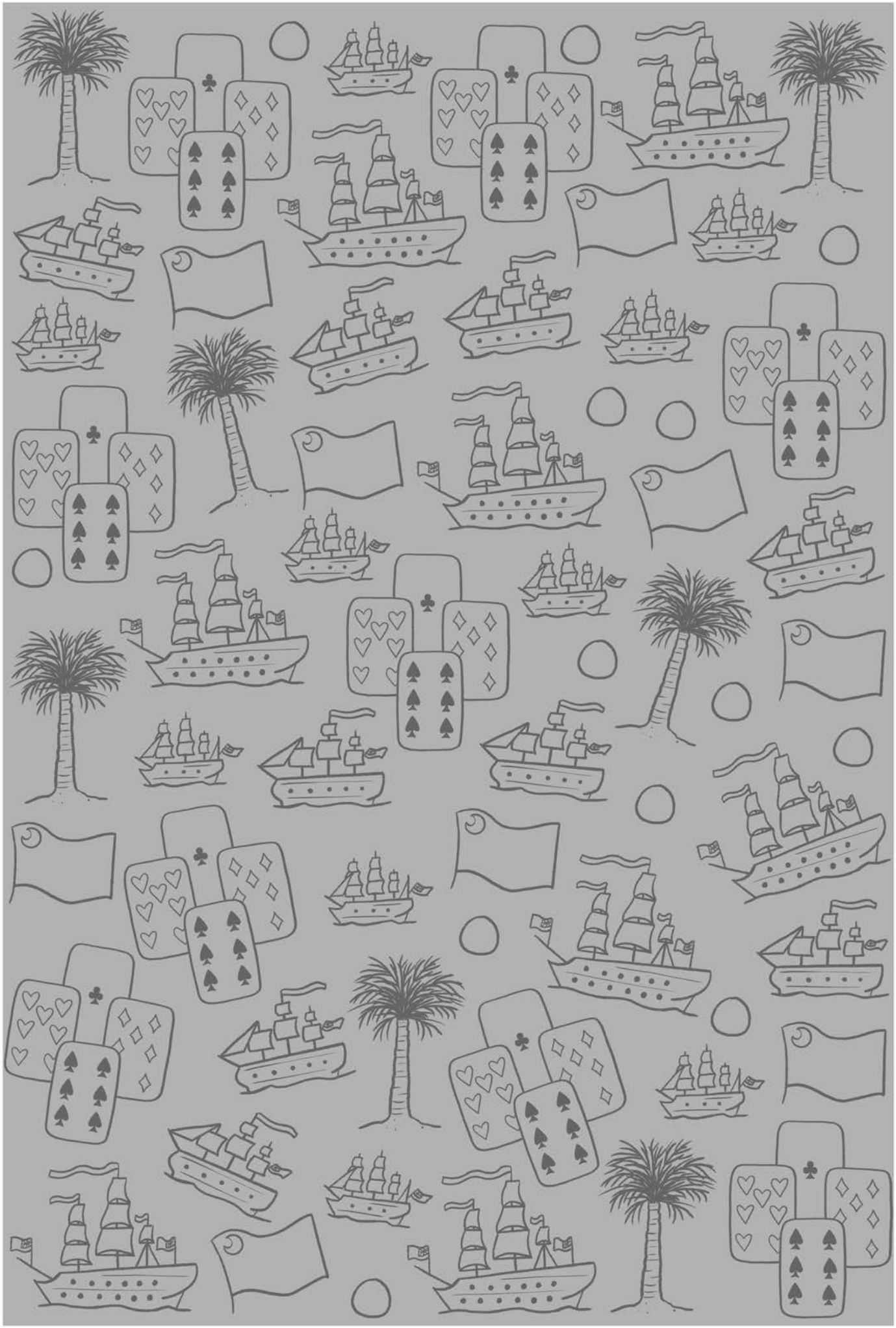
MOULTRIE


ELLIOTT

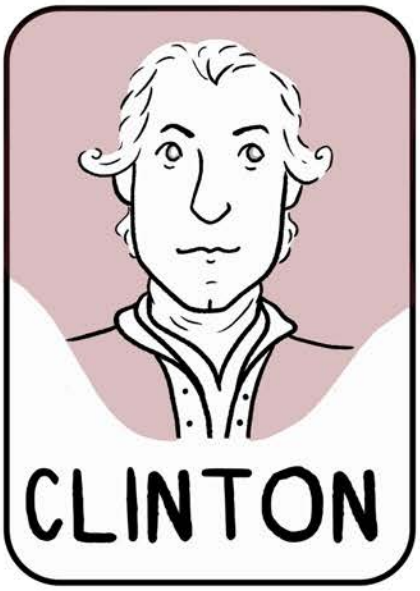

MOULTRIE FLAG

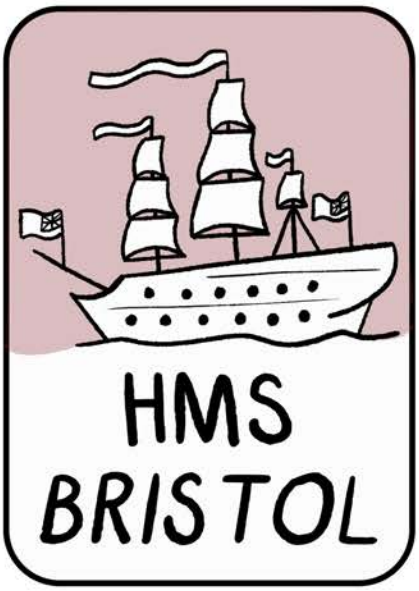
CANNON

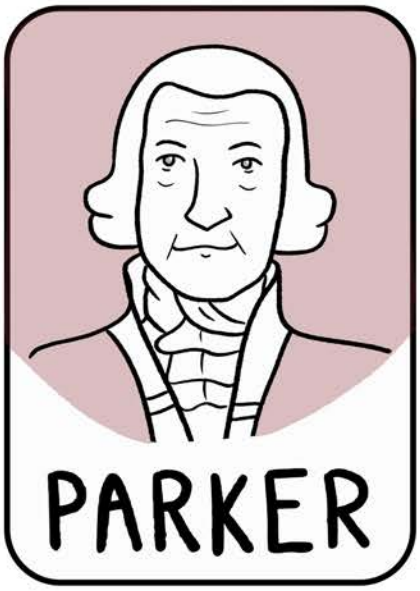
PALMETTO

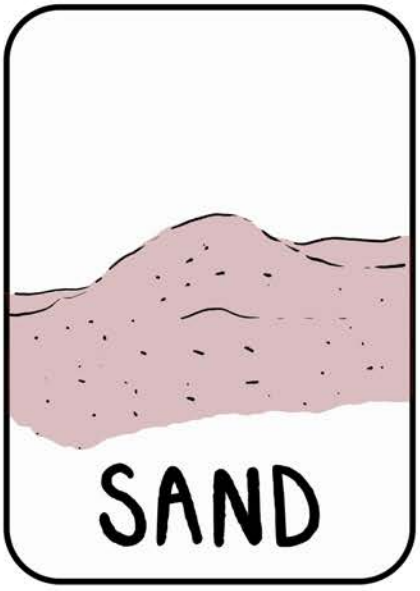


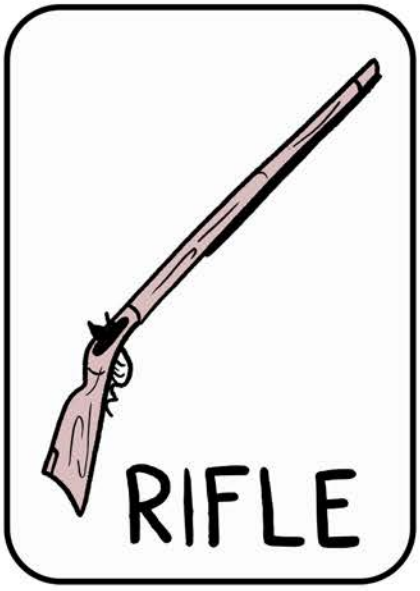
GREAT BRITAIN

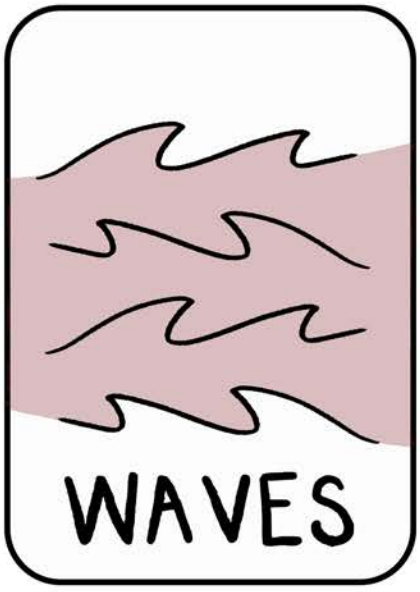

CLINTON

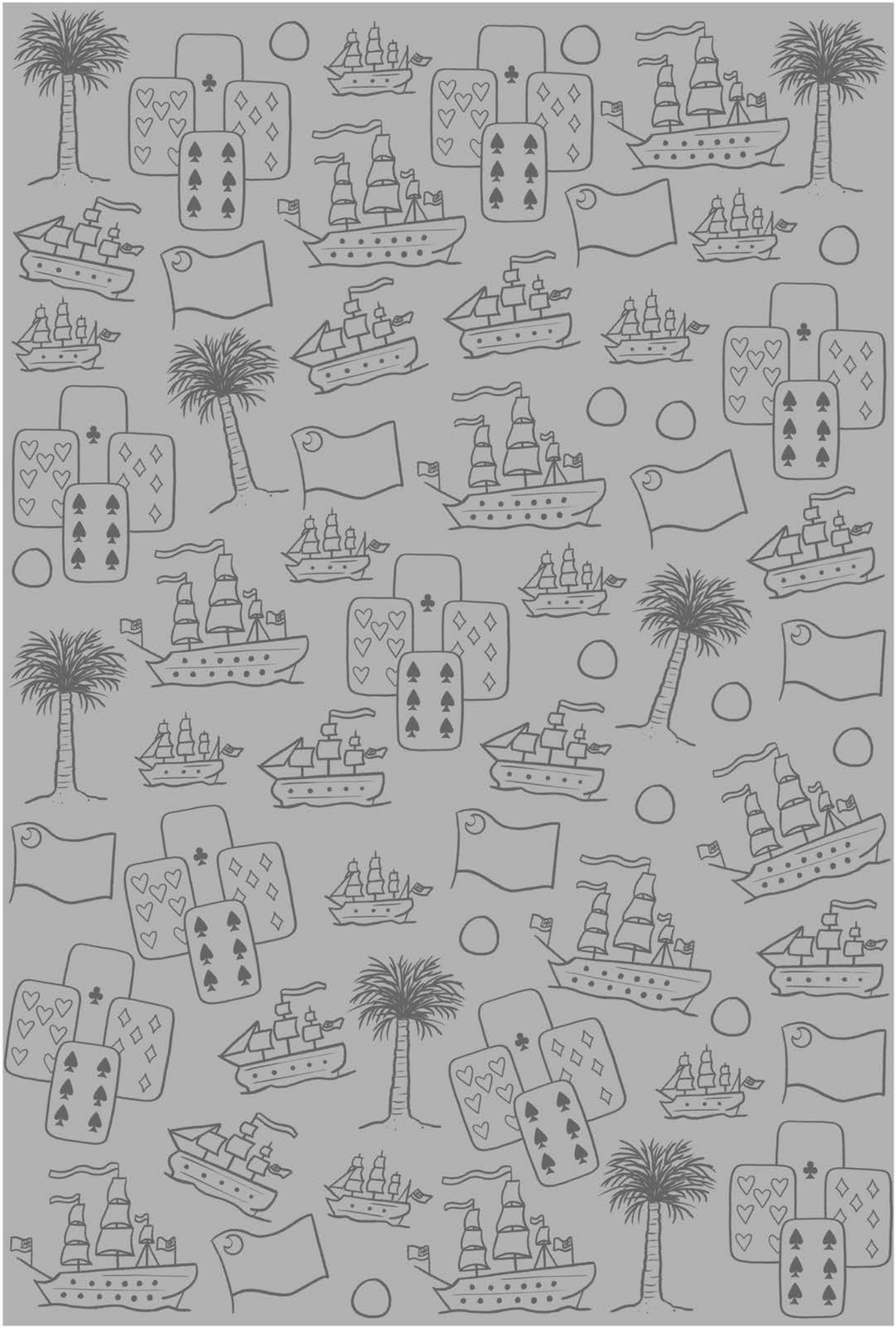

HMS
BRISTOL

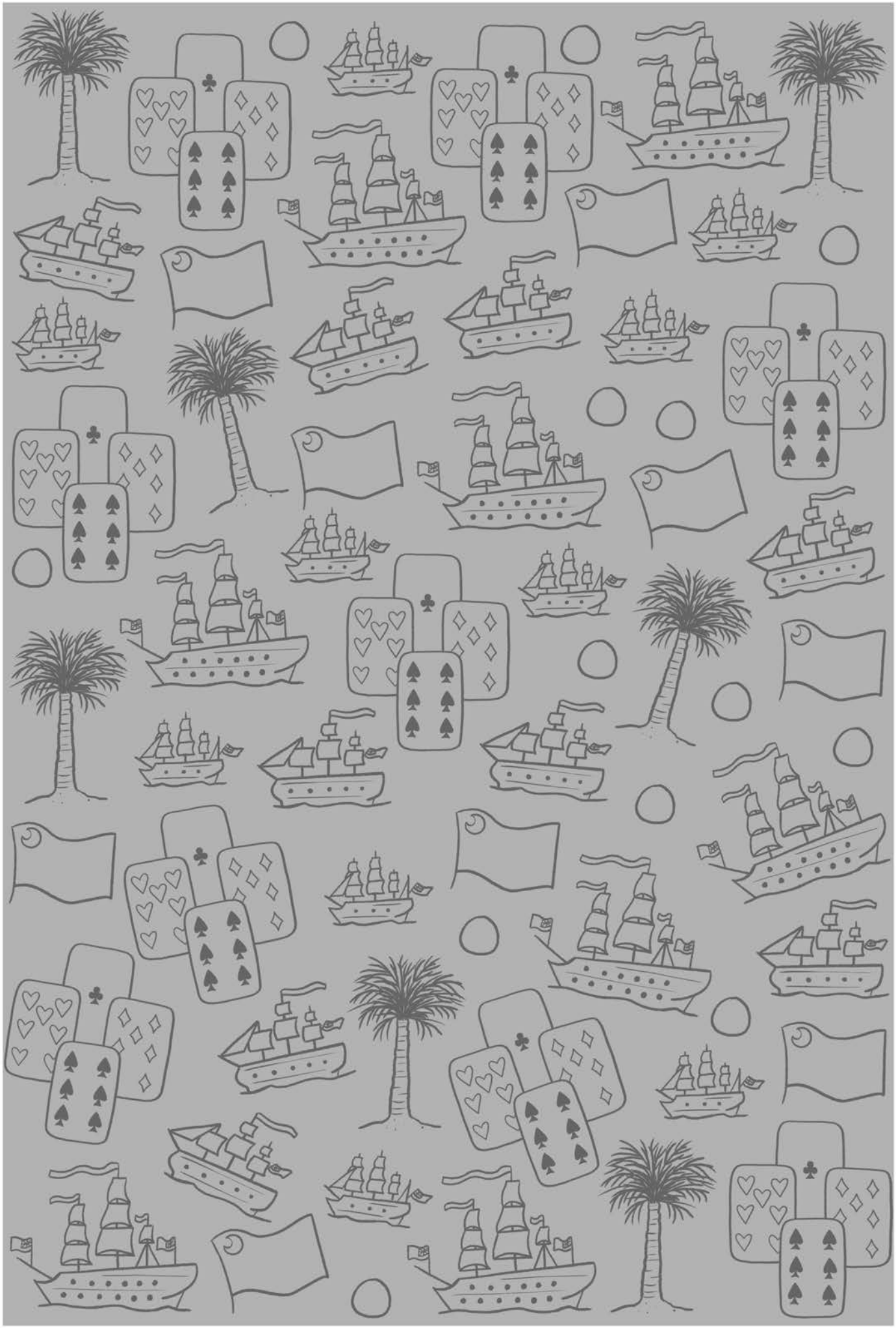

PARKER


SAND

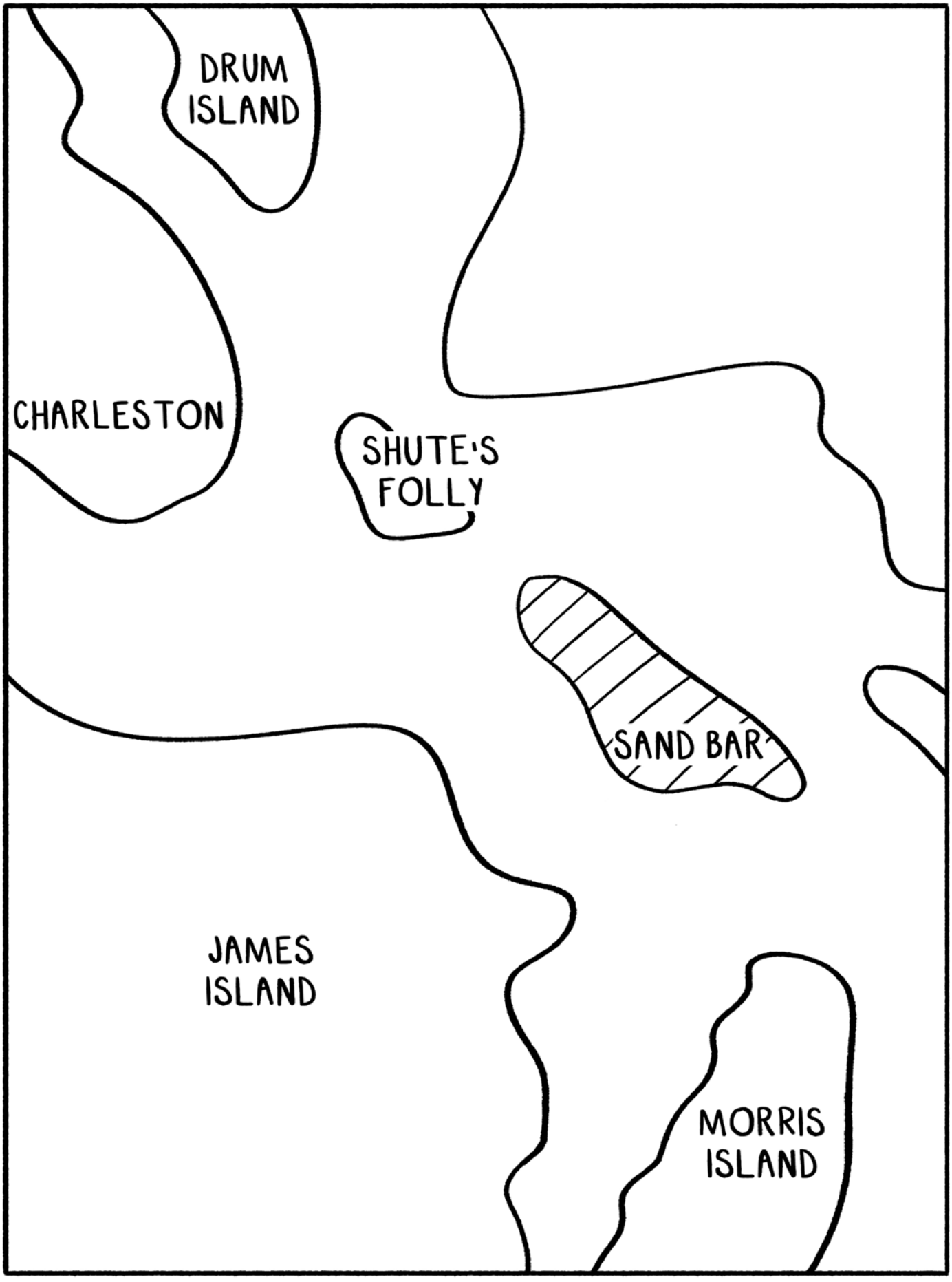

RIFLE

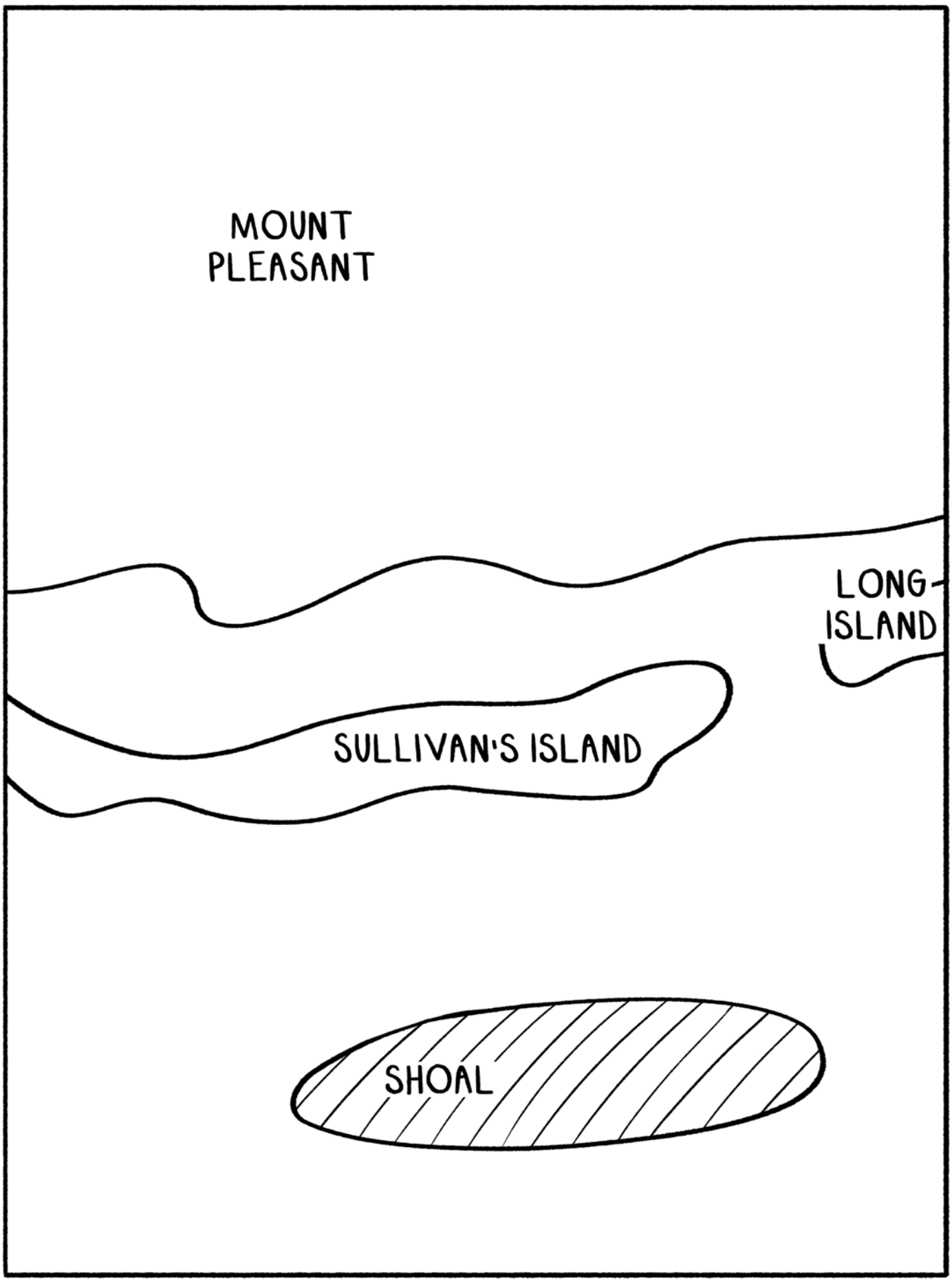

WAVES

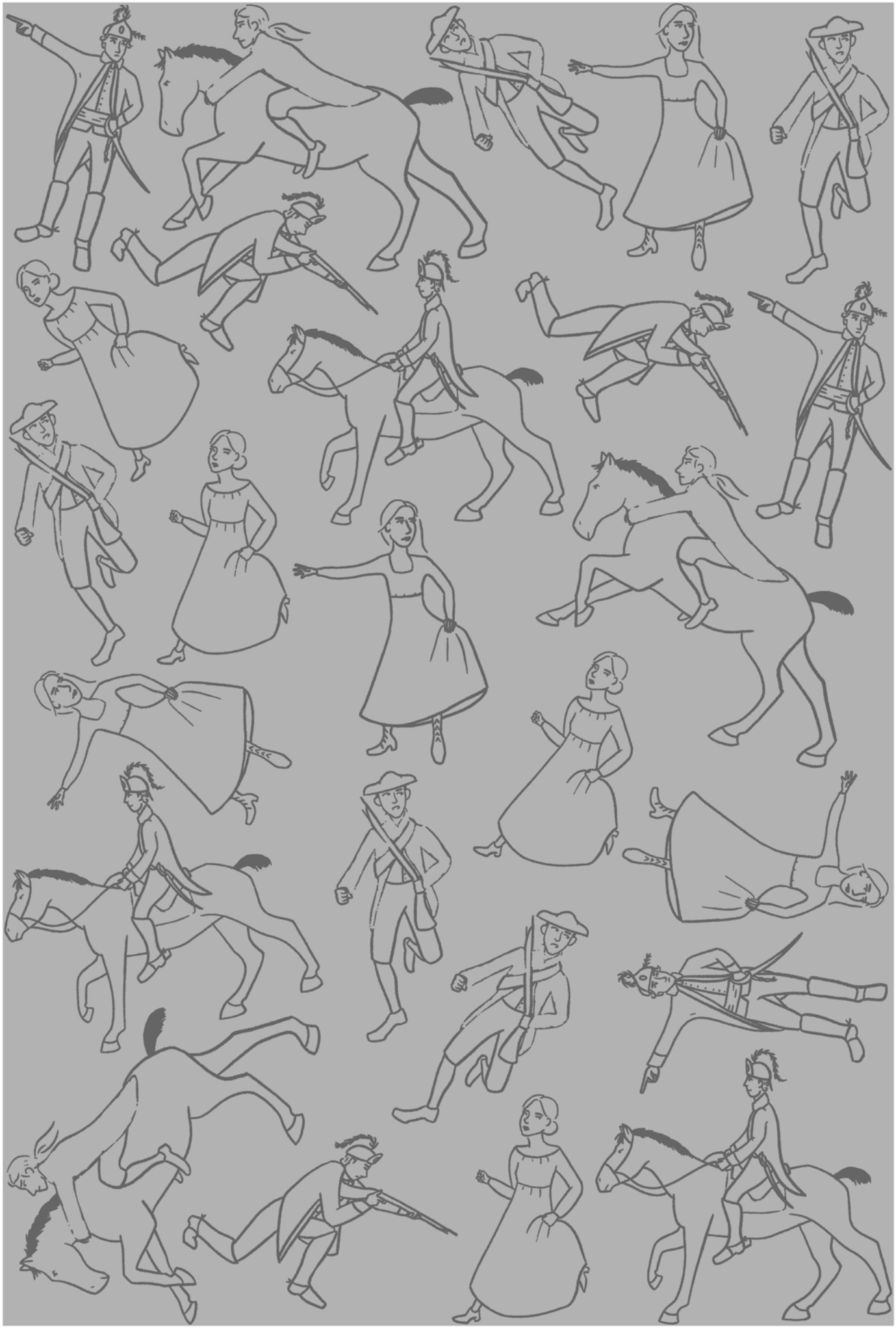




Charleston Harbor, 1776




MOUNT
PLEASANT
LONG-
ISLAND
SULLIVAN'S ISLAND
SHOAL



1779

DRAWN TO FREEDOM GRAPHIC NOVEL

2

ELIZA WILKINSON IN:

BLEEDING INK

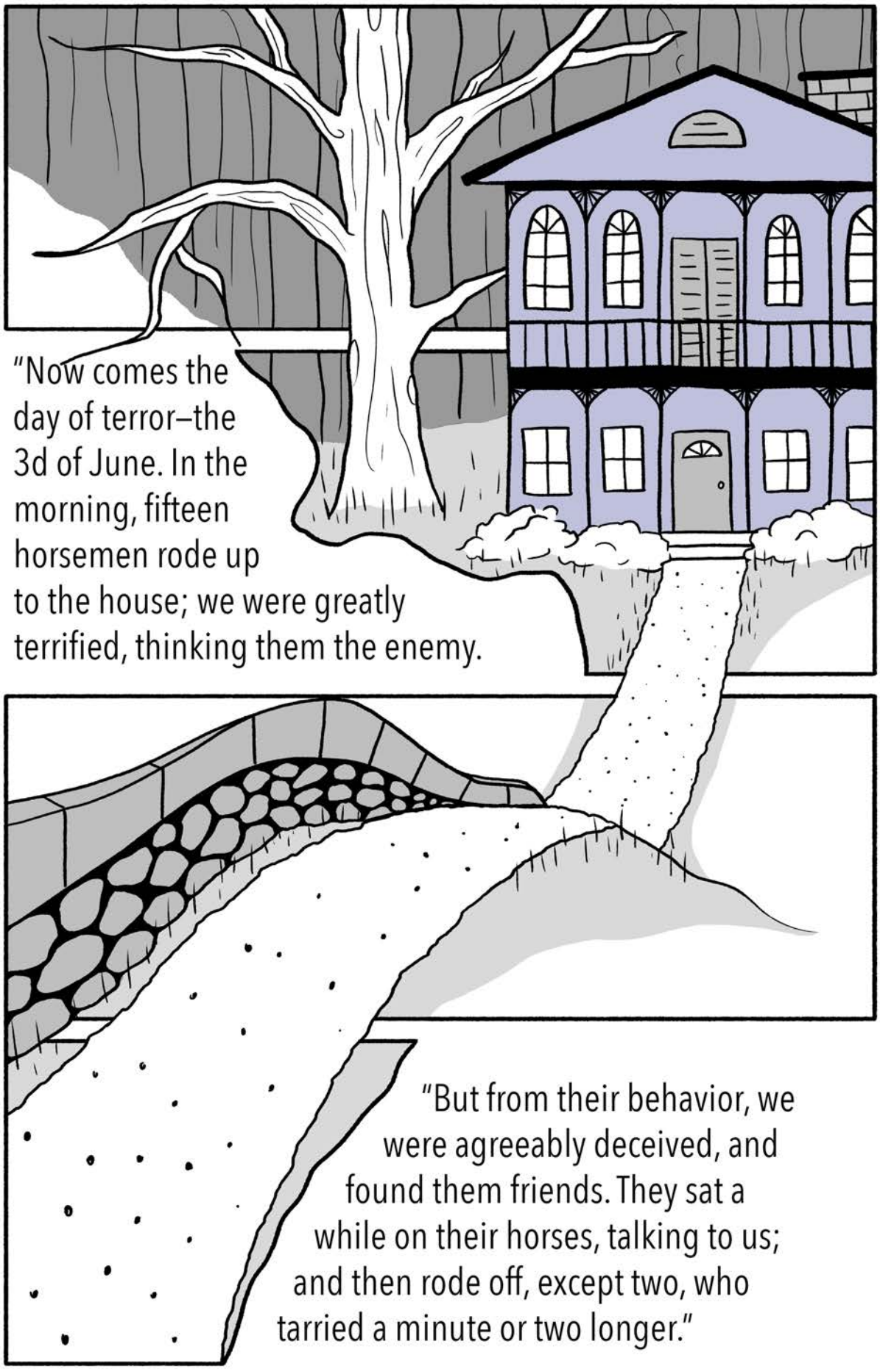
LETTERS FROM THE BRITISH OCCUPATION OF CHARLESTON

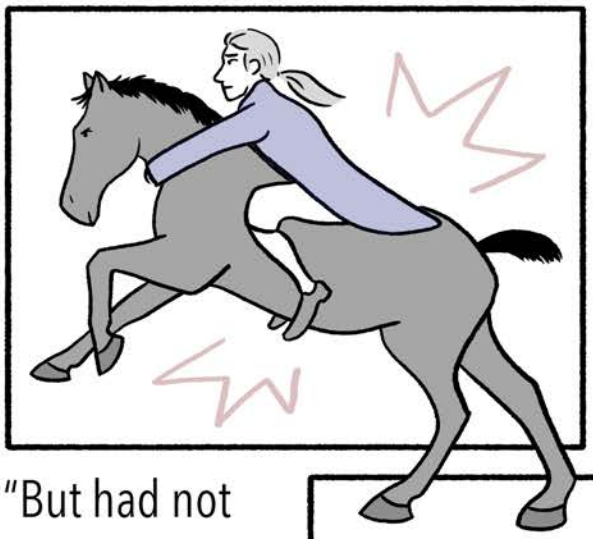
CRAFT YOUR OWN HISTORISCOPE!

Eliza Wilkinson was a 23 year old widow living on a plantation near Charleston when the British plundered through the countryside the Summer of 1779.

Eliza wrote many letters during the Revolution, describing her encounters with both British and American forces...

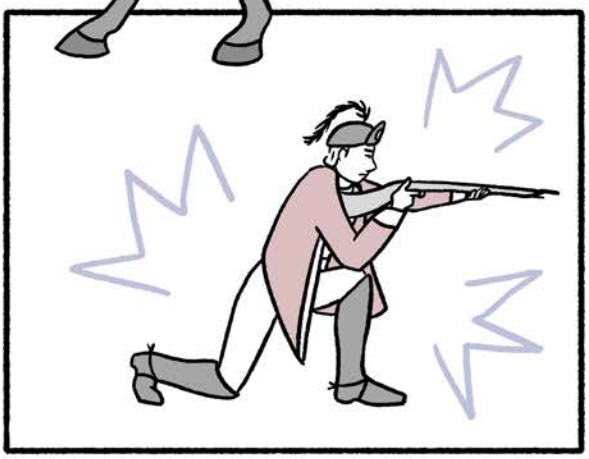
The following account is told in Eliza's own words from her published letter book.


"Now comes the day of terror–the 3d of June. In the morning, fifteen horsemen rode up to the house; we were greatly terrified, thinking them the enemy.
"But from their behavior, we were agreeably deceived, and found them friends. They sat a while on their horses, talking to us; and then rode off, except two, who tarried a minute or two longer."

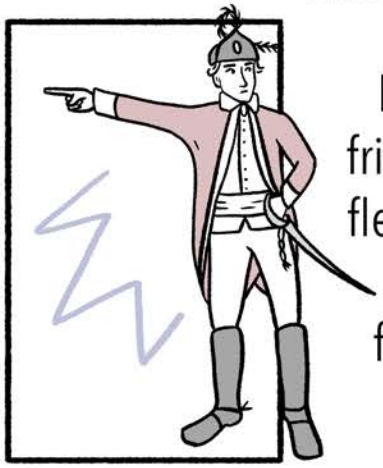


"A girl ran in, exclaiming–'O! the king's people are coming, it must be them for they are all in red.' Upon this cry, the two men that were with us snatched up their guns, mounted their horses, and made off.

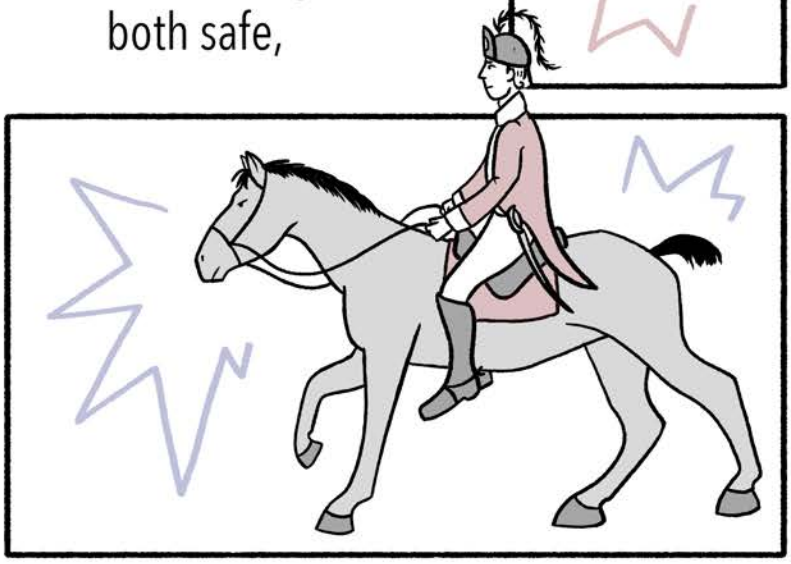
"But had not got many yards from the house, before the enemy discharged a pistol at them.



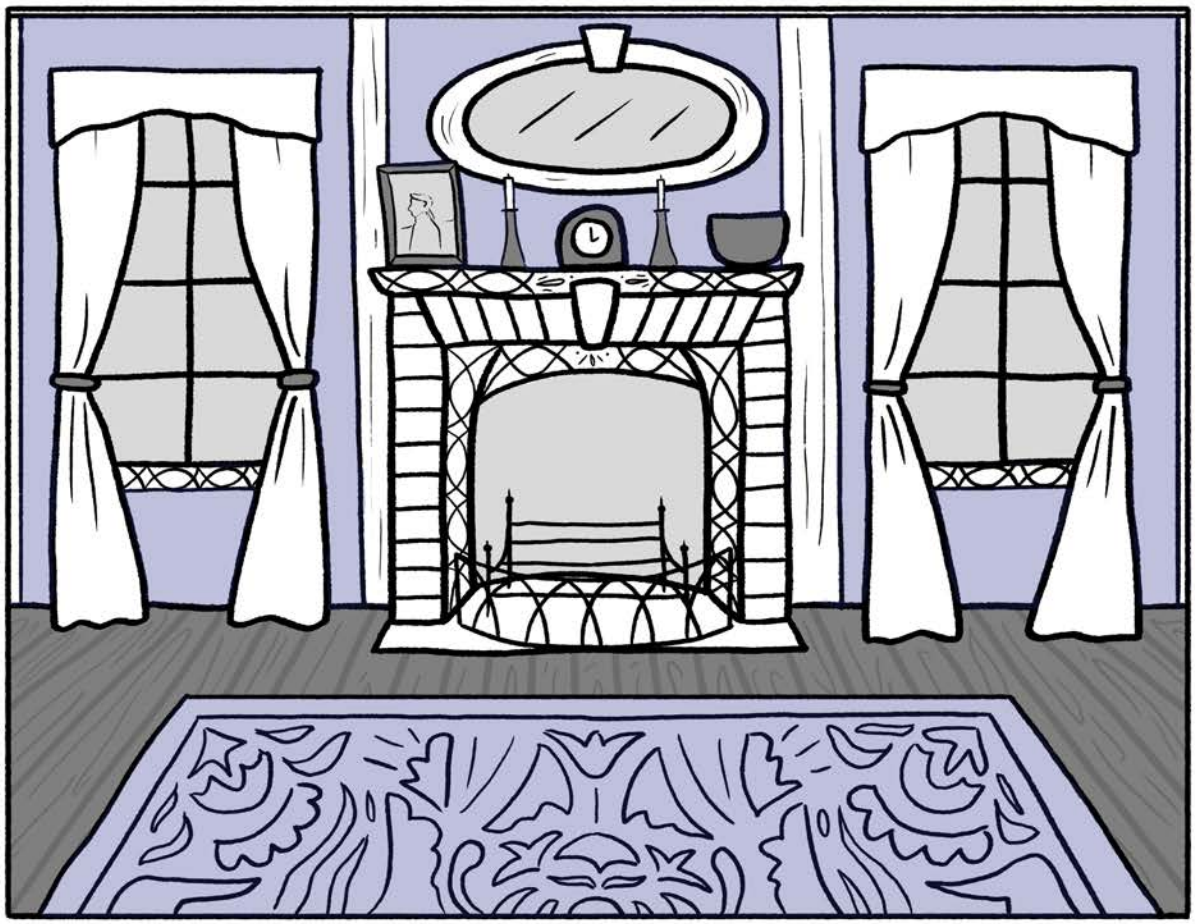
"Terrified almost to death as I was,



I was still anxious for my friends' safety. I tremblingly flew to the window, to see if the shot had proved fatal: when, seeing them both safe,



'Thank heaven,' said I, 'they've got off without hurt!'"



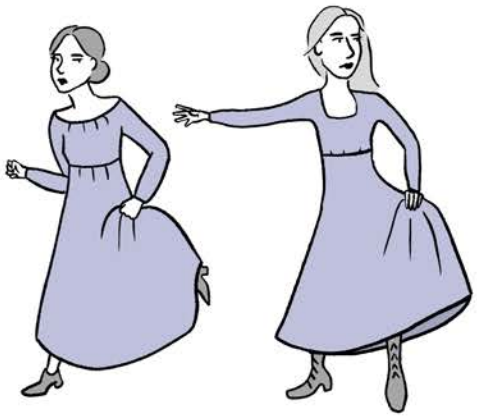
"I'd hardly utter'd this when I heard the horses of the inhuman Britons coming in such a furious manner that they seemed to tear up the earth, and the riders at the same time bellowing out the most horrid curses imaginable. I'd no time for thought–they were up to the house–entered with drawn swords and pistols in their hands, in the most furious manner, crying out, 'Where're these women rebels?'

"Then they began to plunder the house of every thing they thought valuable or worth taking. They divided my shoe buckles between them; they took my sister's ear-rings from her ears; they demanded her ring from her finger. One of them gave my arm such a violent grasp that he left the print of his thumb and three fingers, in black and blue, which was to be seen, very plainly, for several days after."

"It was dusk when we evacuated the House, and had three long miles to walk. Sometimes we would lose a shoe, which would stick fast under roots that ran across the path; at other times we stumbled over stumps, and ran against each other, for it was so dark we could not see many yards before us, and sometimes not at all when we got into the thicker part of the wood.

"On we stumbled till we came to the Sands; the water being still high, it was covered in several places. It grew late, and the darkness increased; every thing seemed awful about us, and, what increased the solemnity, the Birds of Minerva kept a continual hooting over our head, which were answered by their neighbors in the surrounding thickets; and, to complete the scene, the frogs joined their melody!

"Here was harmony, my dear! don't you admire it? We were serenaded in this delightful manner till we got near the house, and then the dogs welcomed us with a howl. And now we could sleep in some security, for daily we saw numbers of our friends, who were continually out, harassing the enemy."



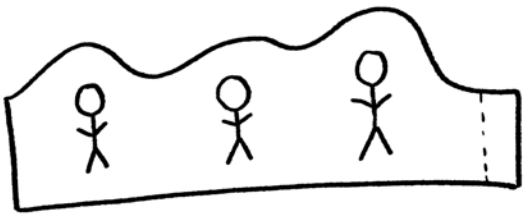
"What a world of vicissitudes is this! The scenes continually changing! It reminds me of a little toy I had once: it was a box with a glass on one side, and by turning a handle, which was fixed in one end, a variety of pictures passed beneath the glass, one continually succeeding another. Some were pleasing, others frightful ... Don't you think this a picture of the world we live in?"

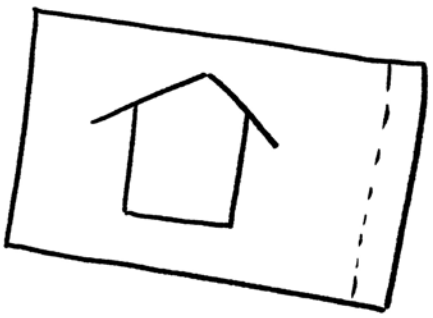
Follow the instructions on the following page to create a toy similar to the one Eliza described in her letter, that tells the story of her encounters with American and British soldiers.

Explore a 19th Century Historiscope:

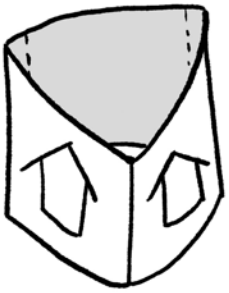
a printable copy of this activity is available at schistory.org/education/resources

1: cut out the landscape and character pieces

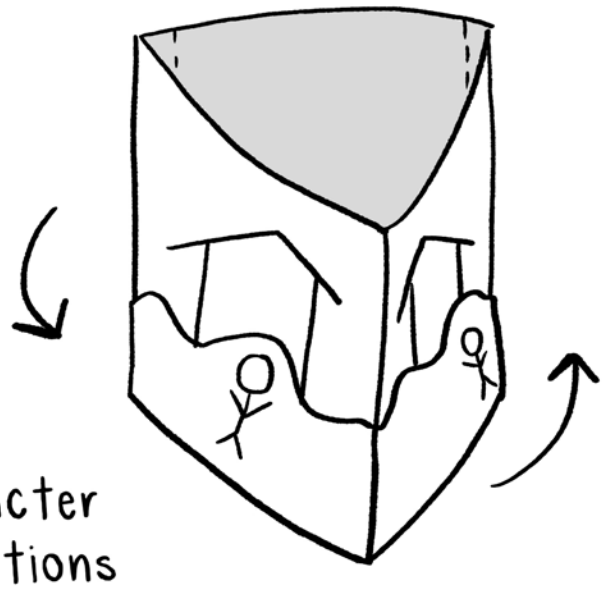




2: tape or glue the pieces into rings

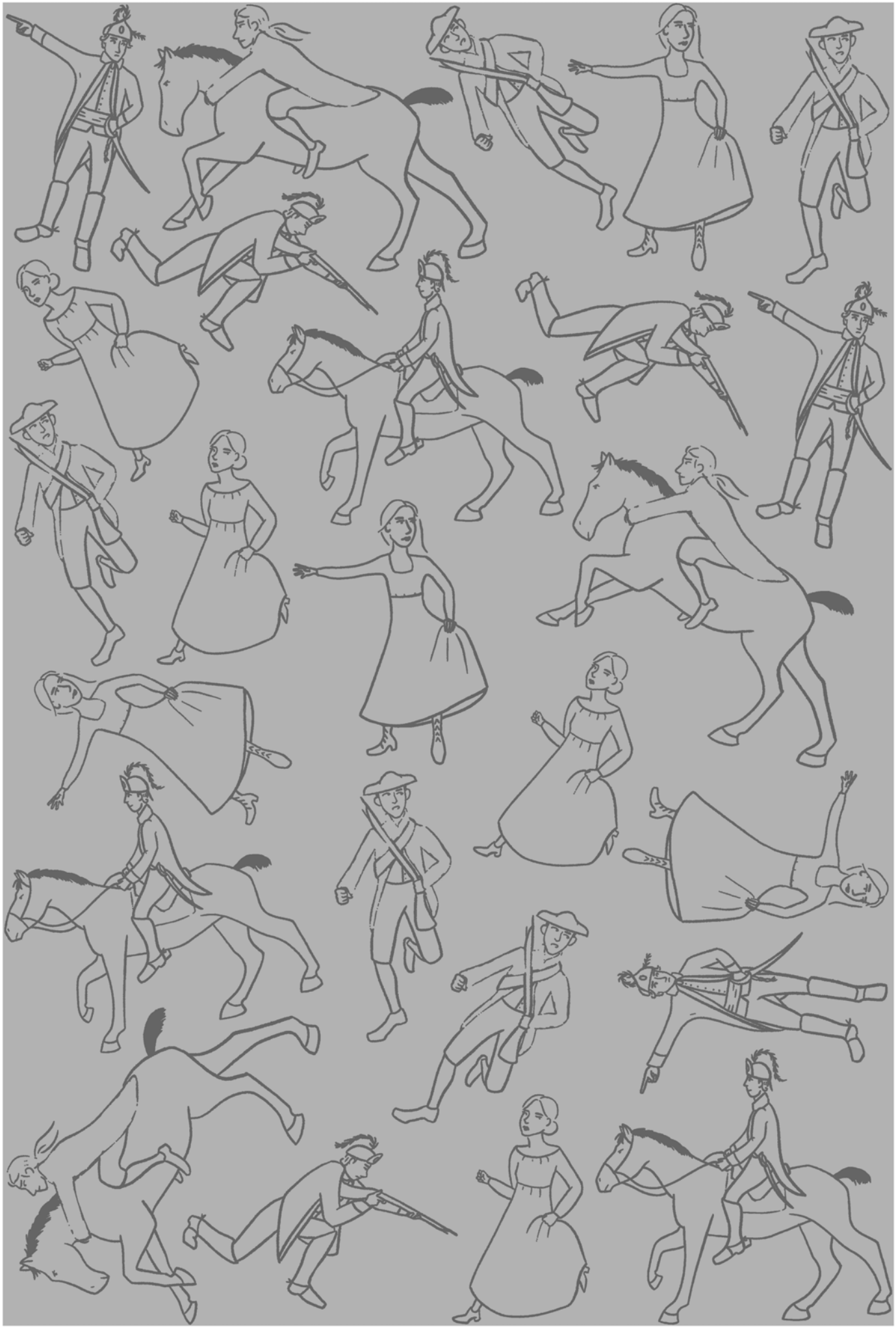


3: slide the character ring onto the landscape ring

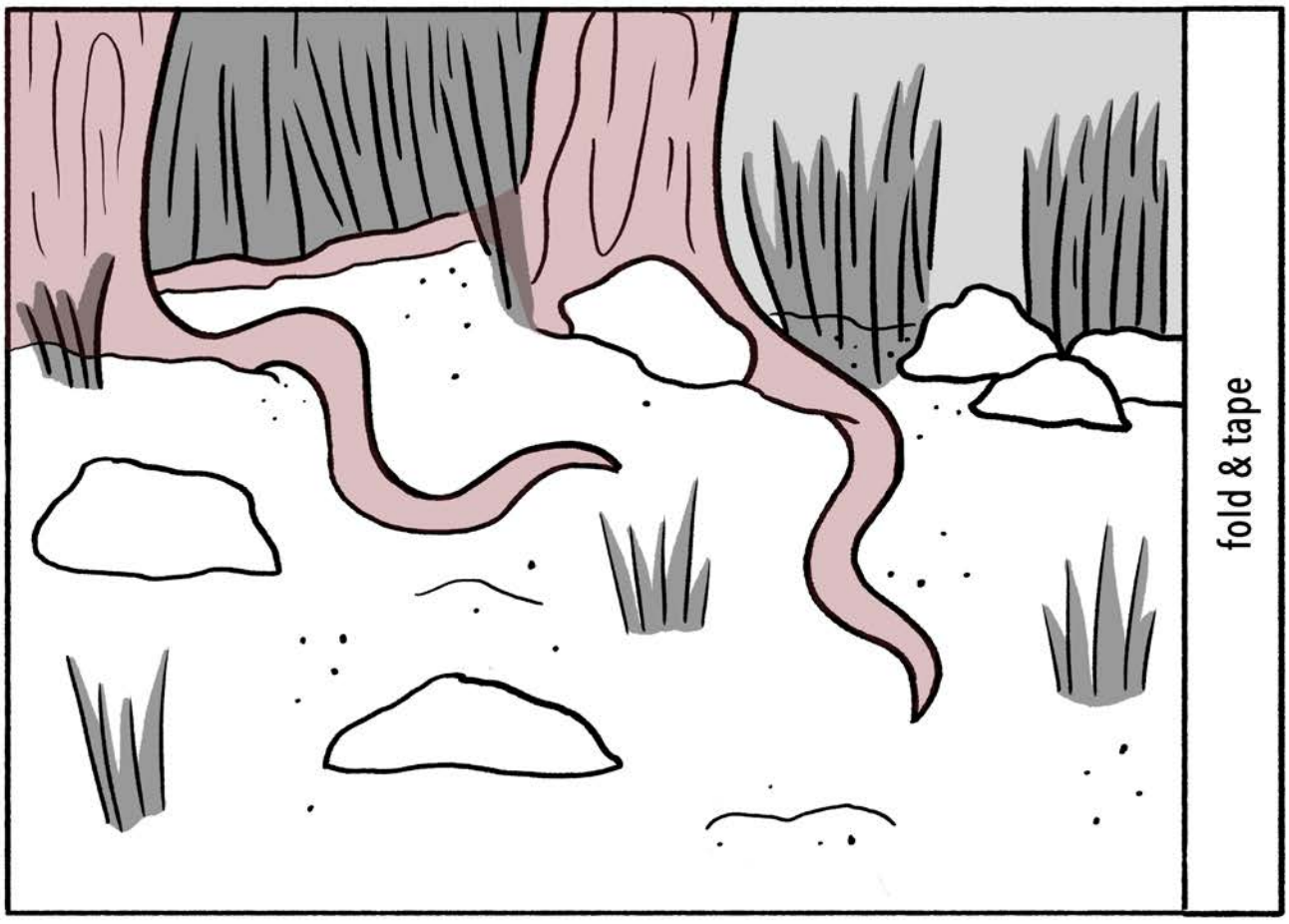


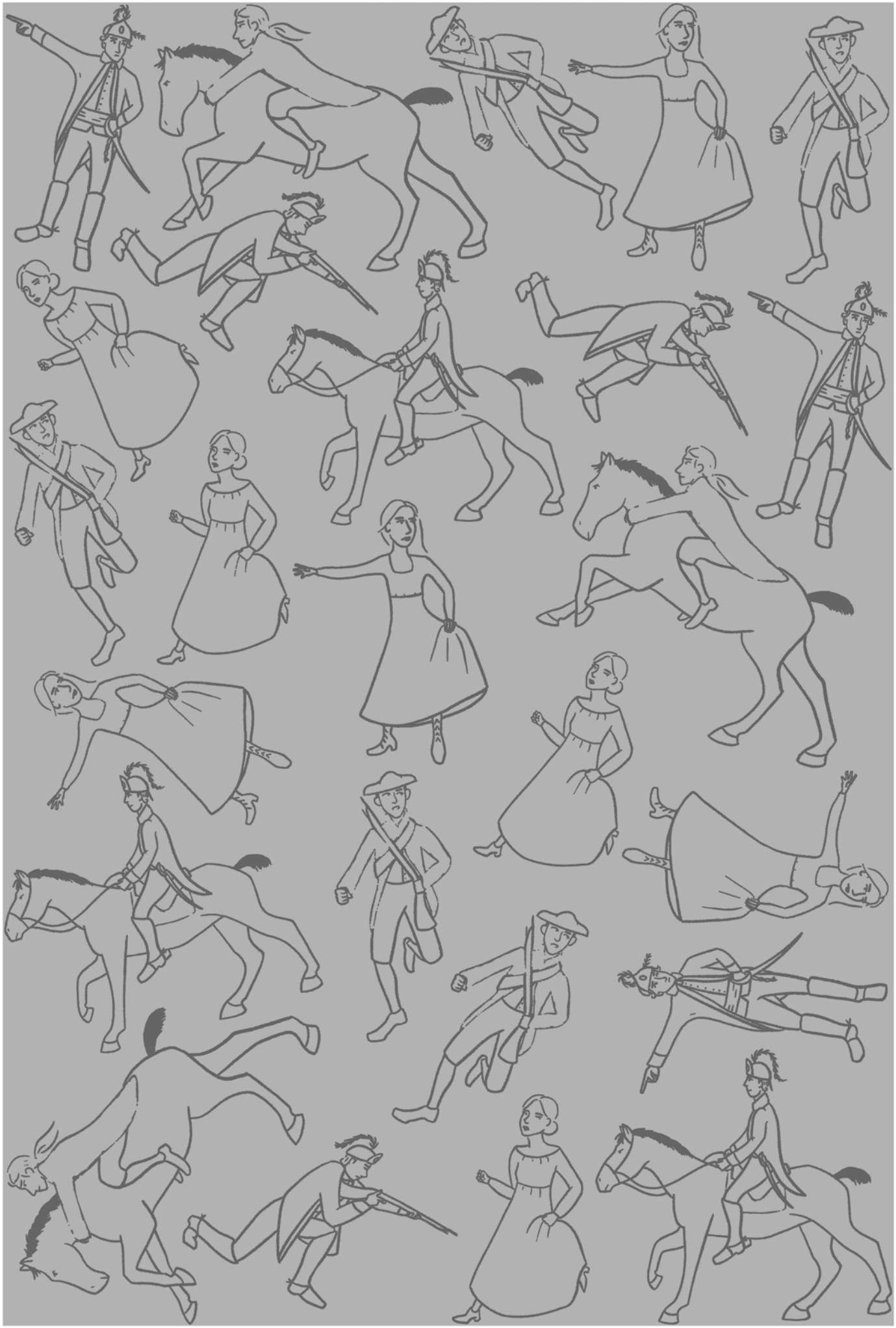
4: rotate the rings to view different character and landscape combinations

LANDSCAPES

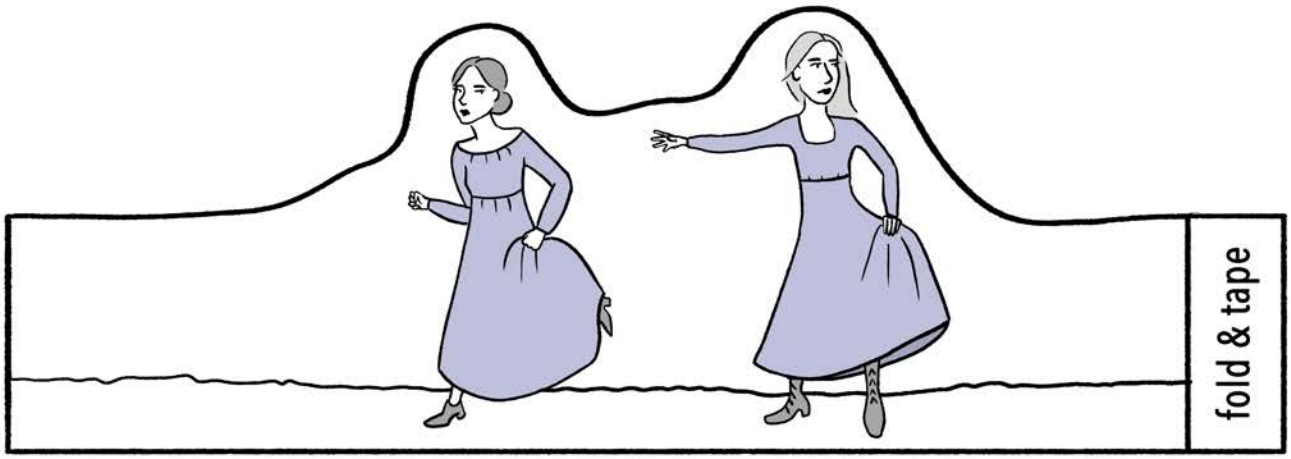


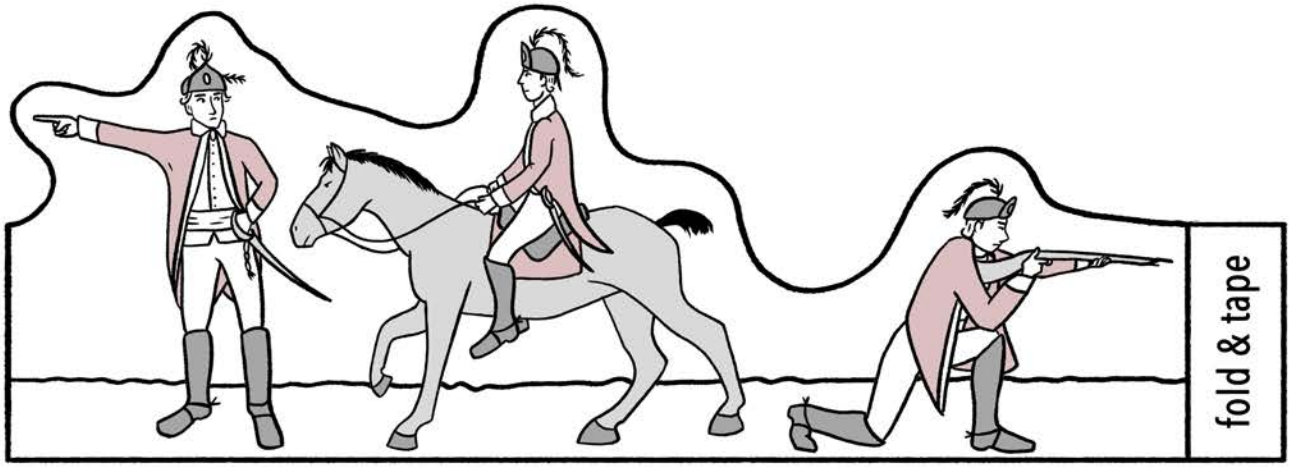
fold & tape

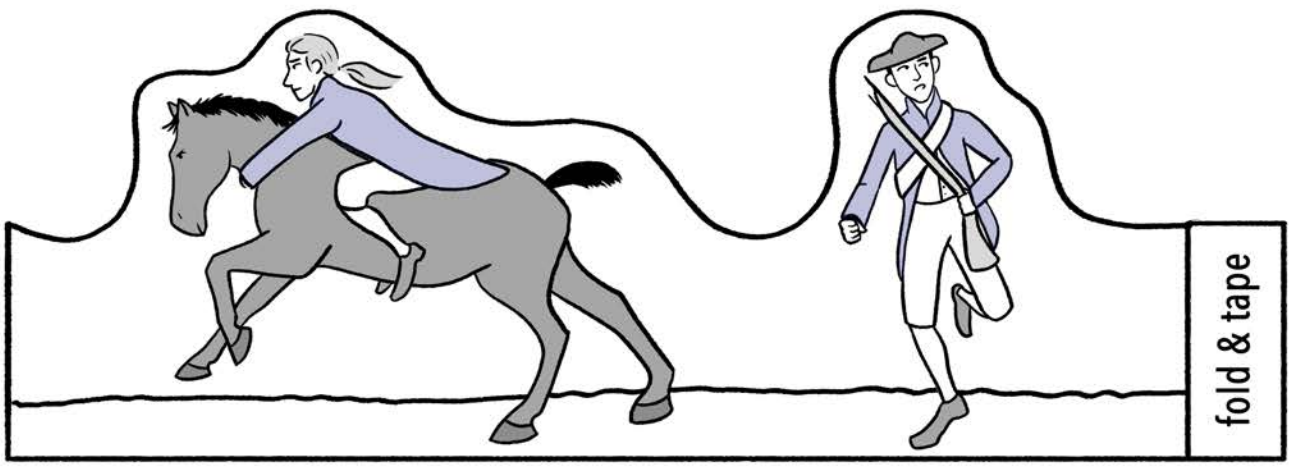

fold & tape

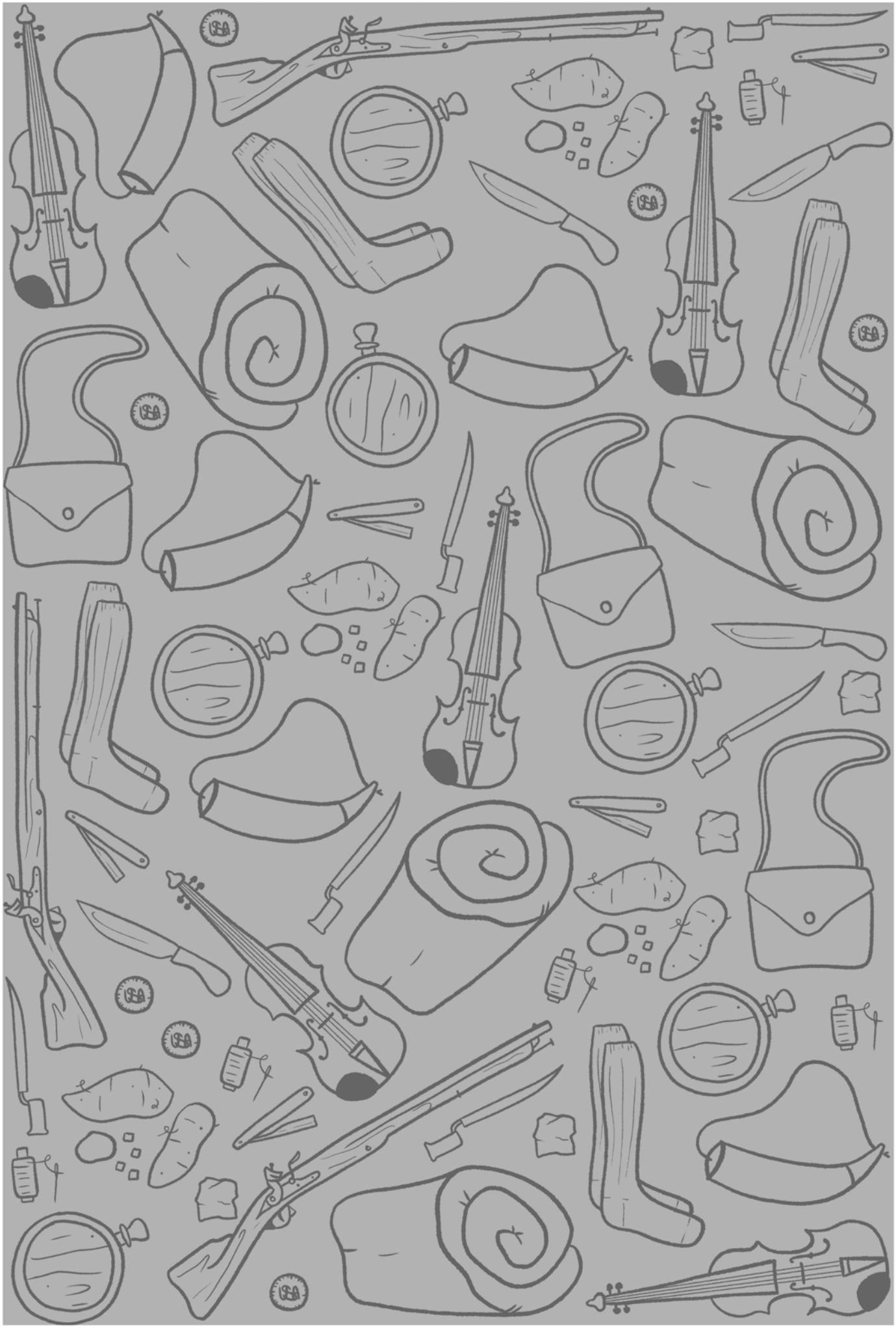


CHARACTERS









1780

DRAWN TO FREEDOM GRAPHIC NOVEL

#3

OSCAR MARION IN:

SUPPORTING ROLE

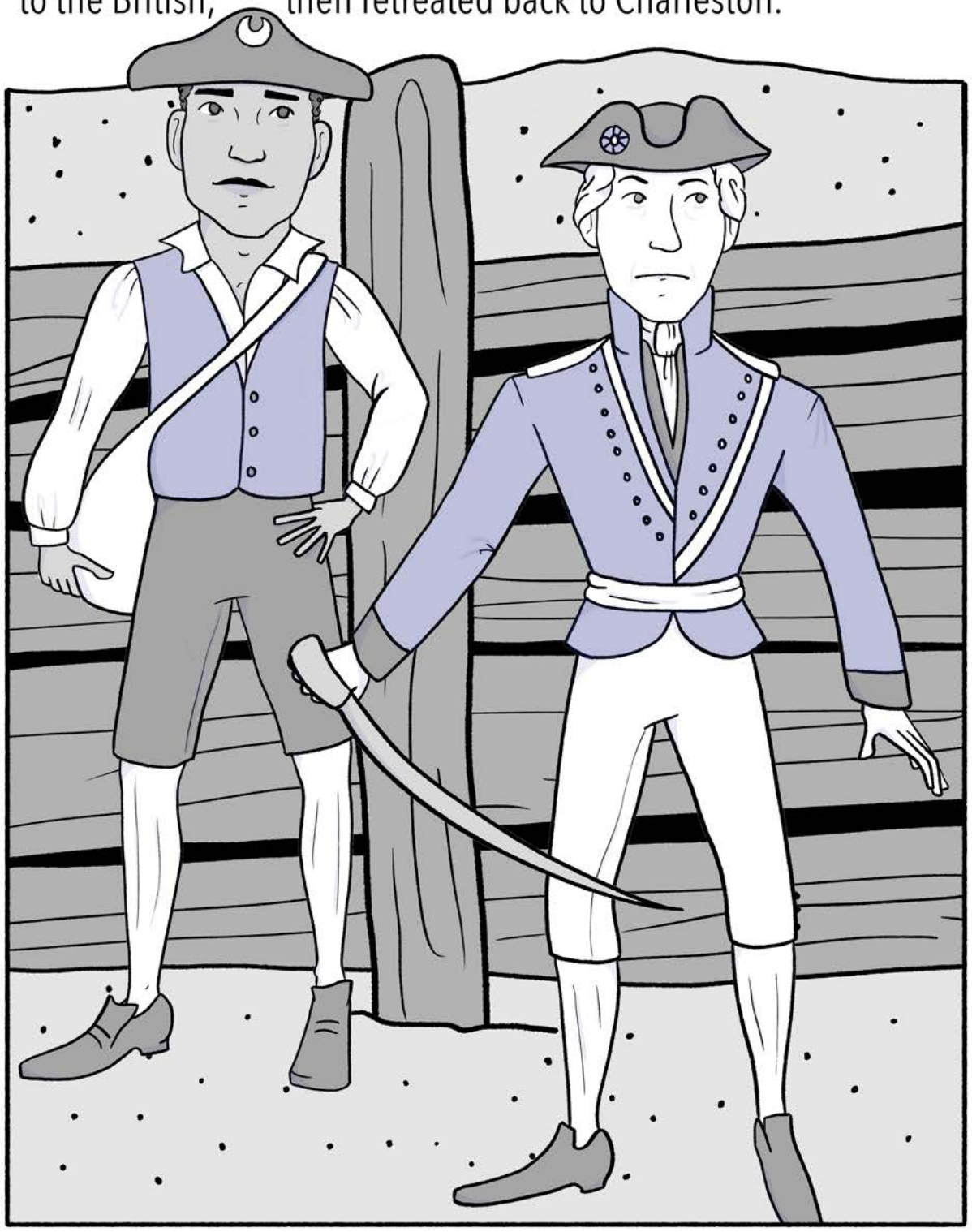
A JOURNEY THROUGH THE WAR-TORN SC BACKCOUNTRY

PACK YOUR SADDLEBAG ESSENTIALS!

Oscar Marion was 30 years old when his enslaver, Francis Marion, was named a Captain for the Revolutionary War.

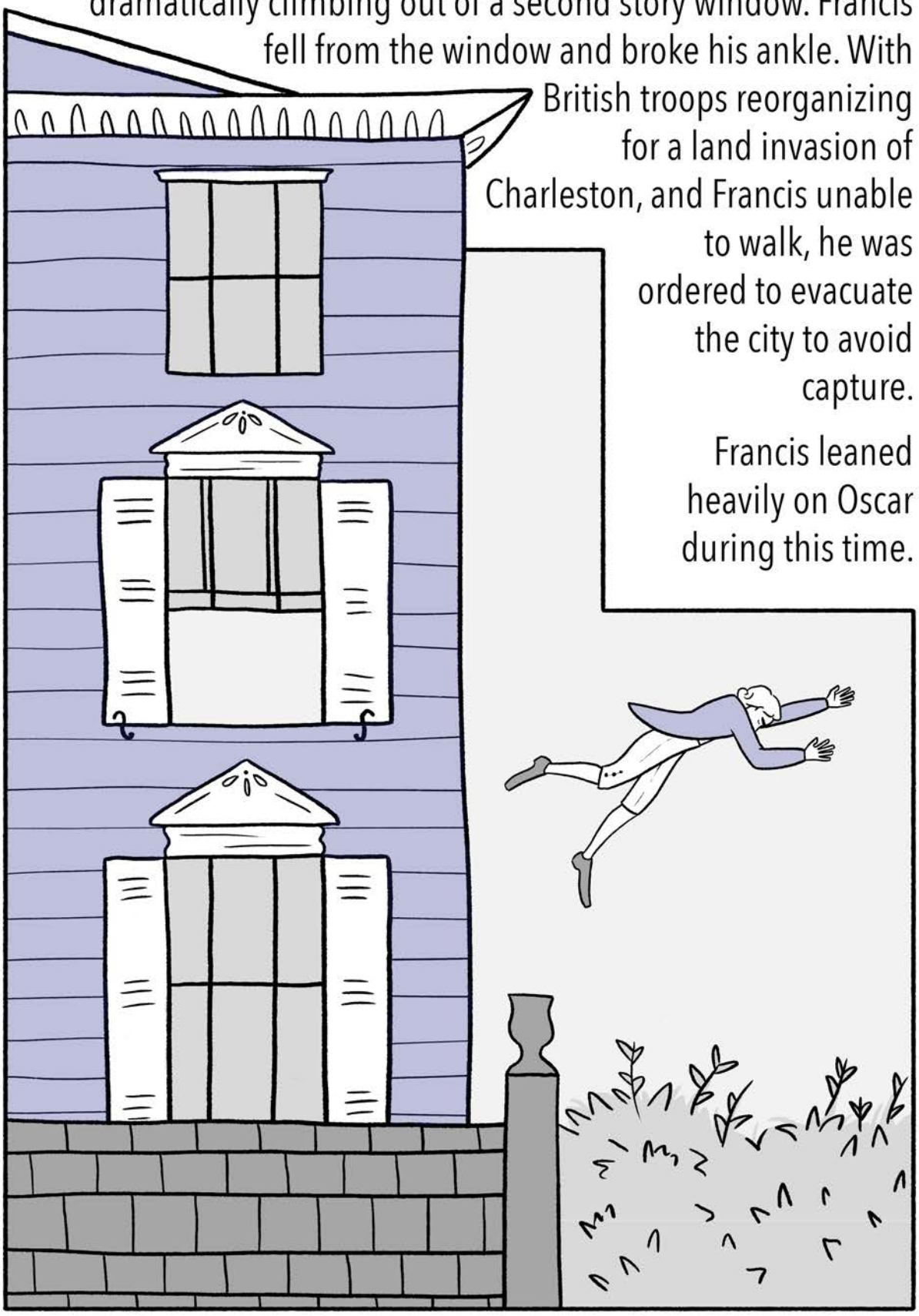
Oscar served as Francis' personal servant and lifelong companion. In the Spring of 1780, threats of a British Siege of Charleston drove Oscar and Francis from the city...

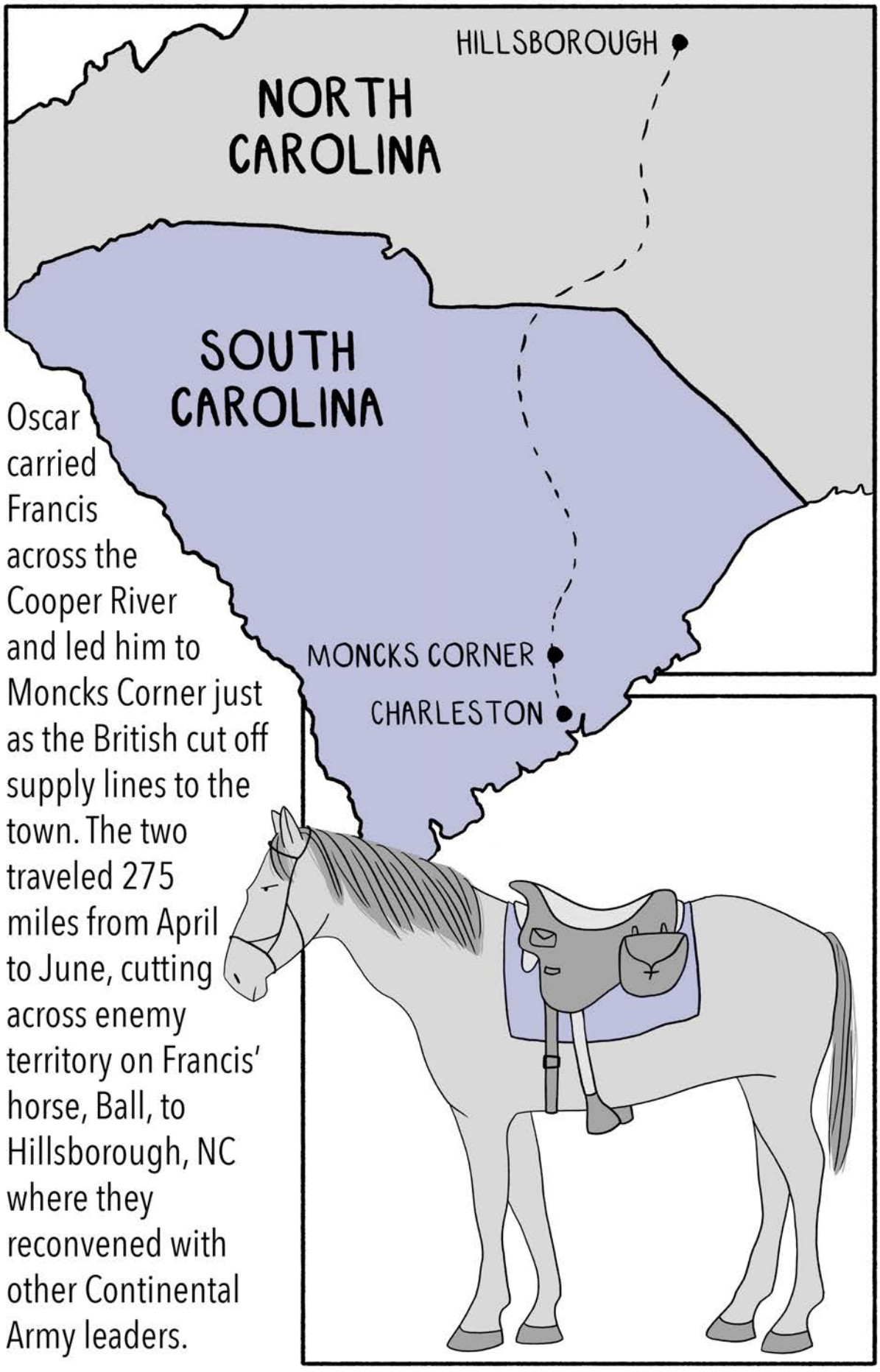
Oscar and Francis spent the early part of the war in and around the Lowcountry with the 2d South Carolina Regiment, the same regiment as William Jasper. Francis helped lead the 2d to their victory on Sullivan's Island, in the Palmetto Fort that enslaved men like Oscar helped build. They traveled to Savannah as it fell to the British, then retreated back to Charleston.



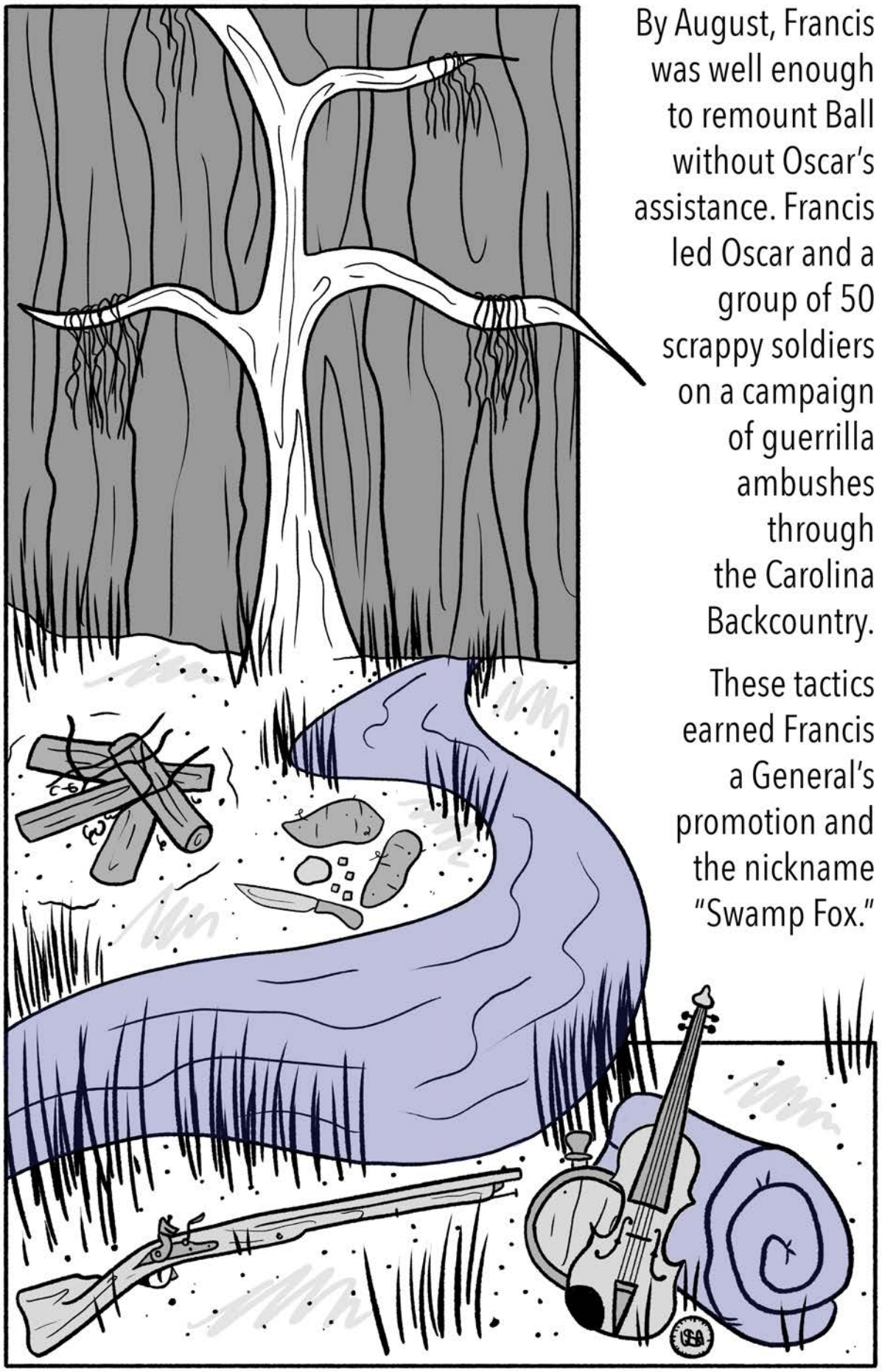
In Charleston, Francis attended a fateful dinner party. As the host rambled on, toasting the Patriot cause, Francis excused himself, dramatically climbing out of a second story window. Francis fell from the window and broke his ankle. With British troops reorganizing for a land invasion of Charleston, and Francis unable to walk, he was ordered to evacuate the city to avoid capture.

Francis leaned heavily on Oscar during this time.





Oscar carried Francis across the Cooper River and led him to Moncks Corner just as the British cut off supply lines to the town. The two traveled 275 miles from April to June, cutting across enemy territory on Francis' horse, Ball, to Hillsborough, NC where they reconvened with other Continental Army leaders.



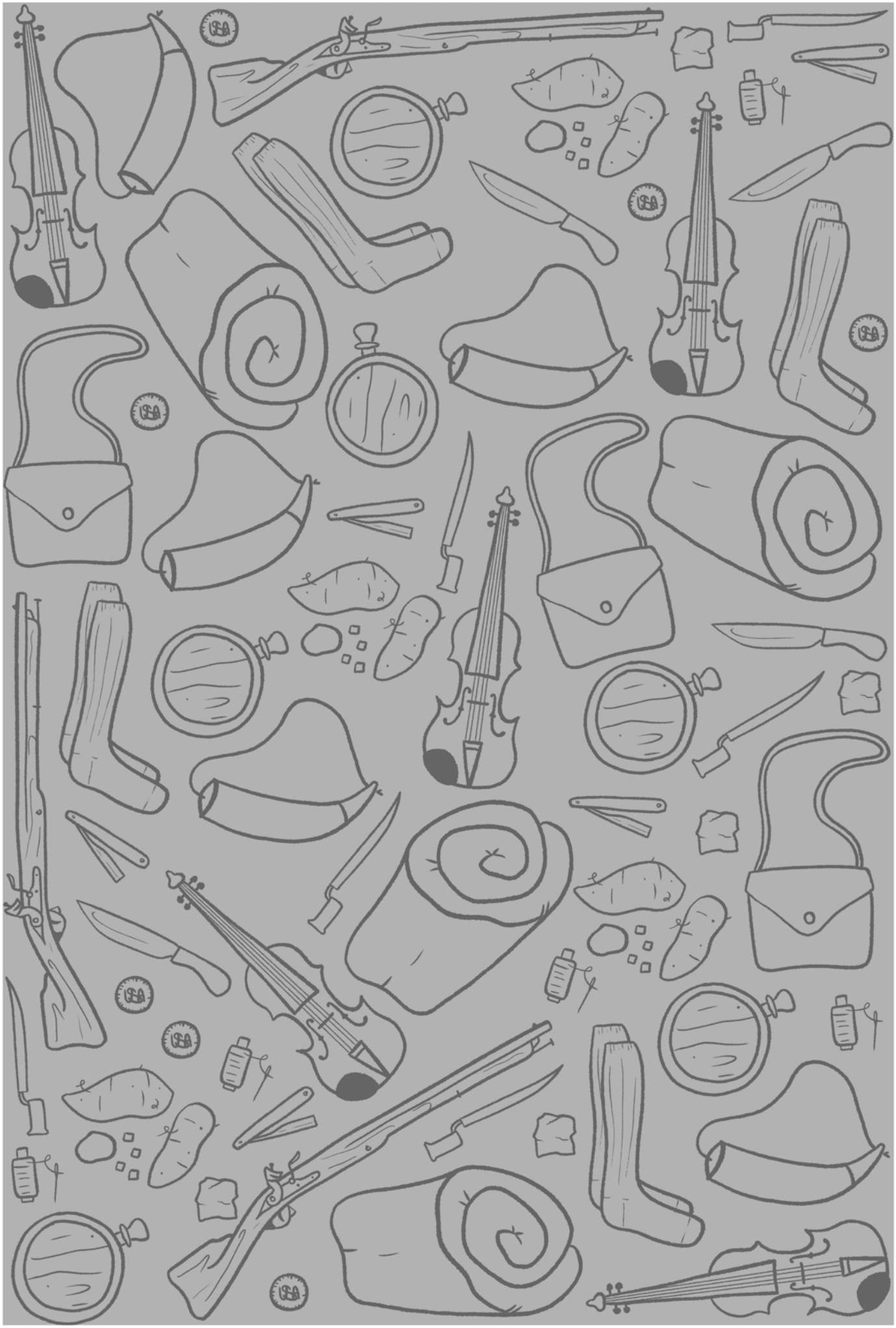
By August, Francis was well enough to remount Ball without Oscar's assistance. Francis led Oscar and a group of 50 scrappy soldiers on a campaign of guerrilla ambushes through the Carolina Backcountry.

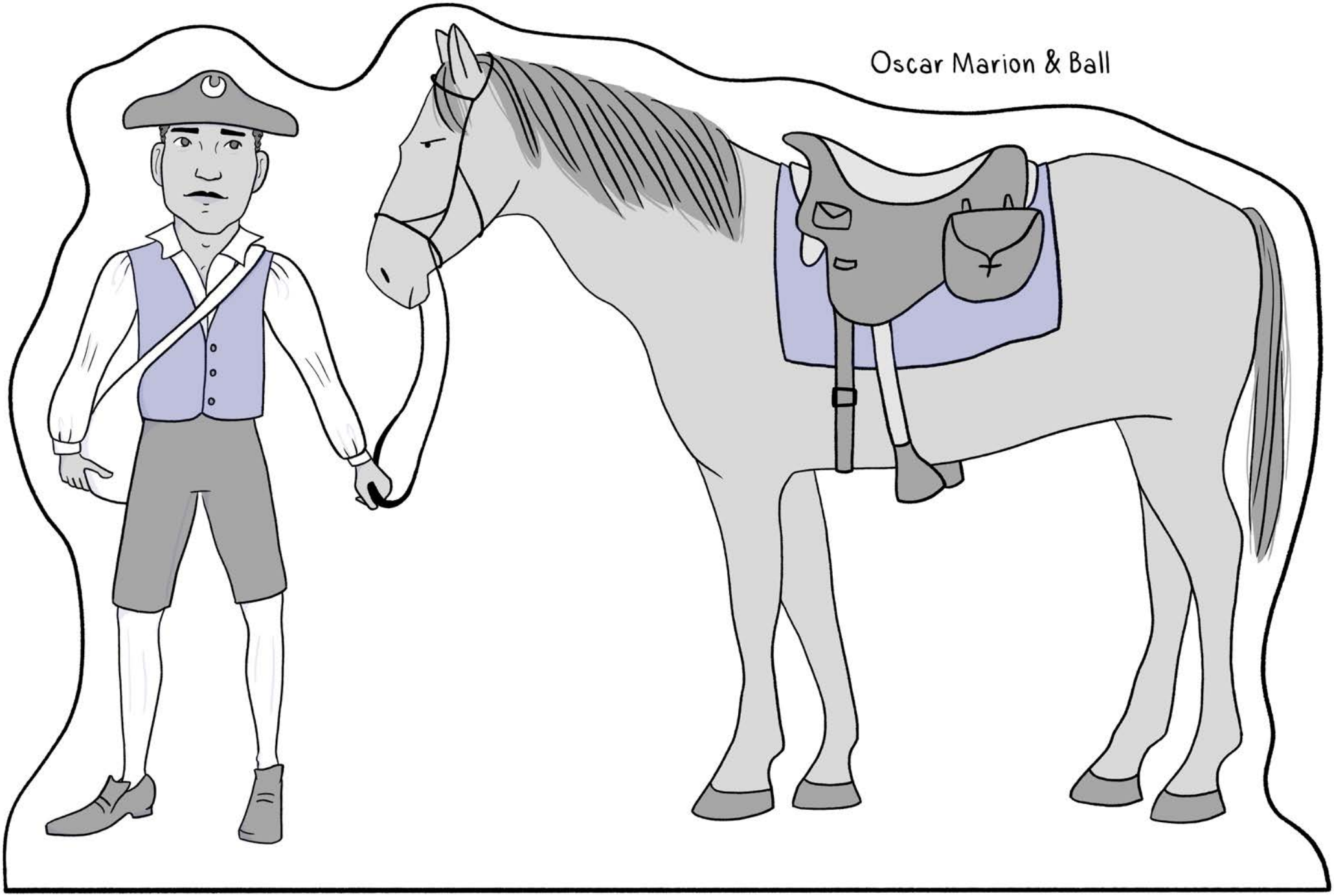
These tactics earned Francis a General's promotion and the nickname "Swamp Fox."

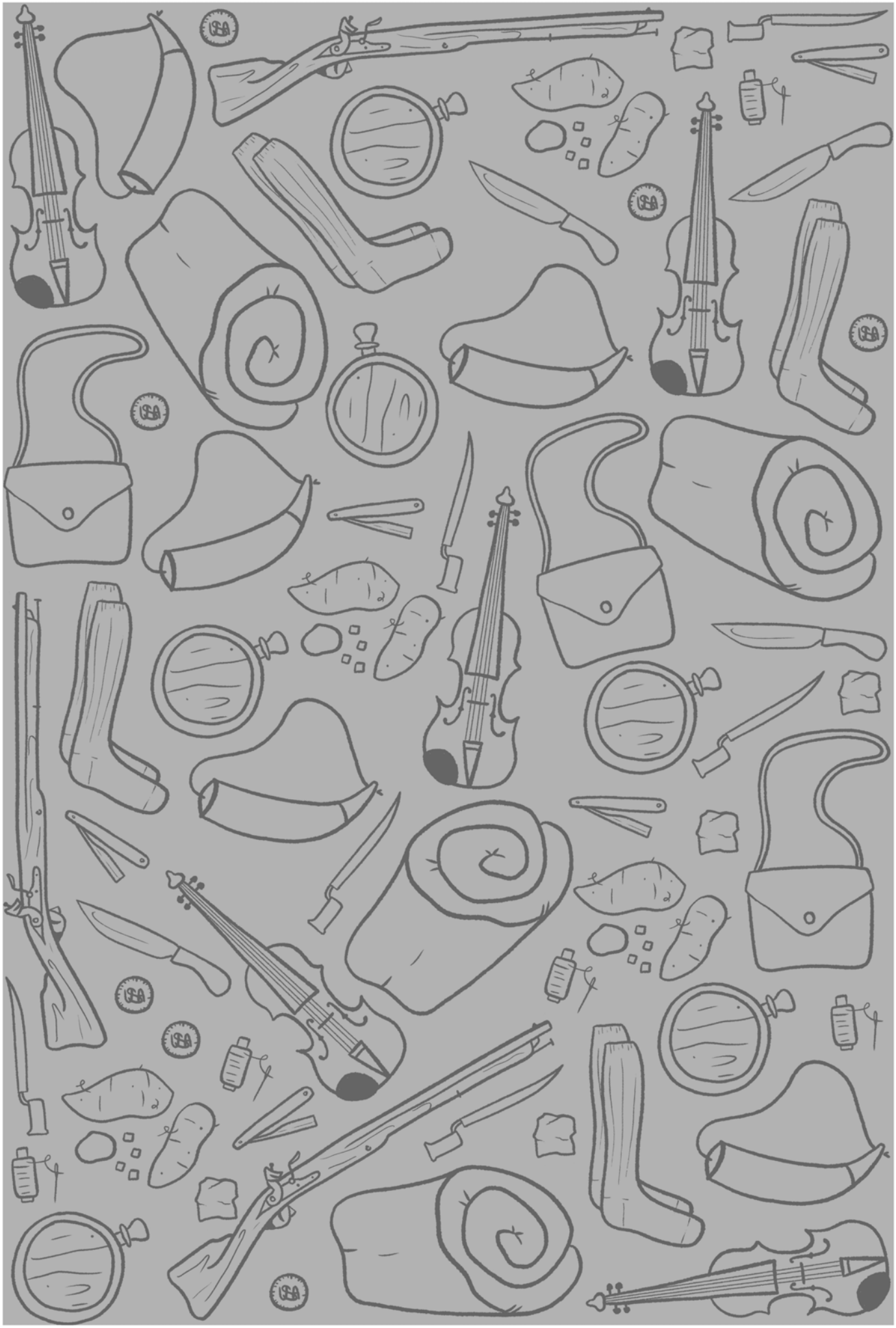
The things they carried were important for all soldiers, especially the troops traveling light through the swamps with Francis.

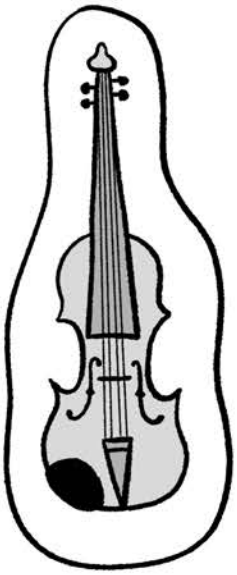
Oscar and the other enslaved men were in charge of packing saddle bags, organizing camp, and cooking meals. Consider the most important items for the journey; cut out the pieces on the following pages and add other essentials by drawing, printing, or cutting items out of ads and magazines.

a printable copy of this activity is available at schistory.org/education/resources

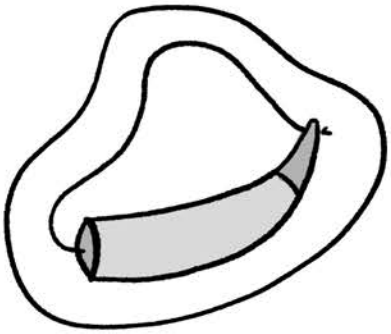



Oscar Marion & Ball

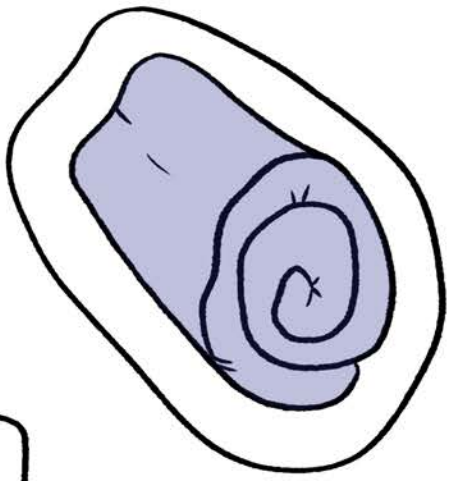




fiddle



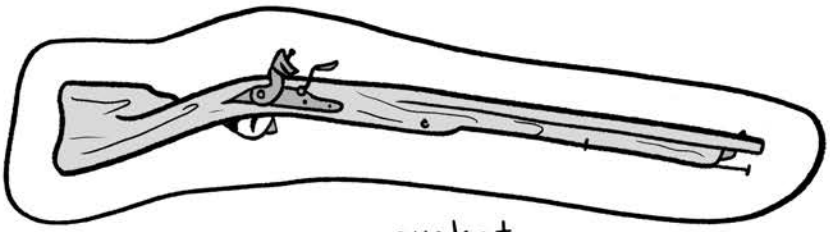
powder horn



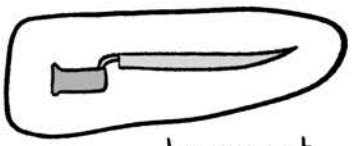
blanket

button

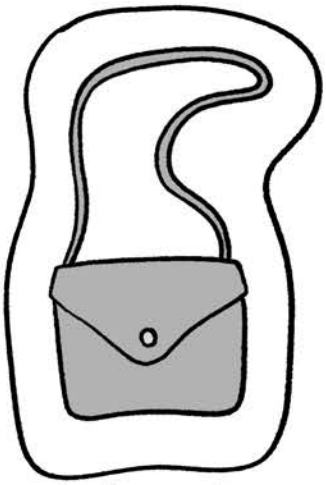
flint



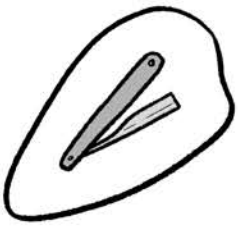
musket



bayonet

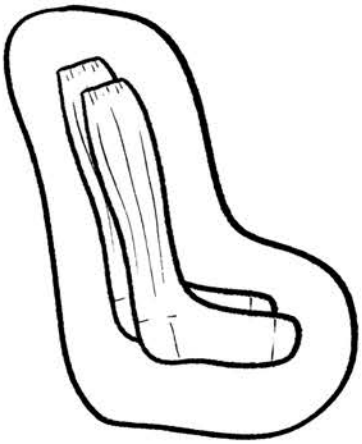


shot pouch

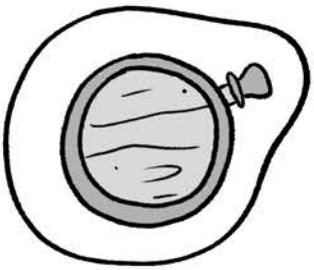


razor

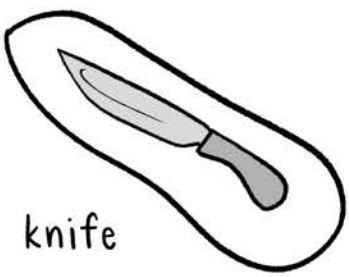
needle & thread



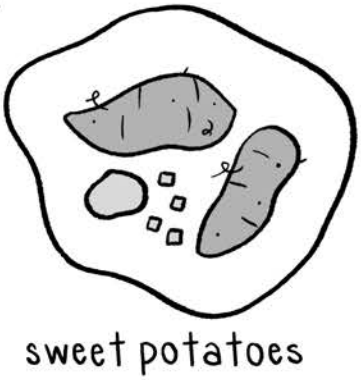
socks



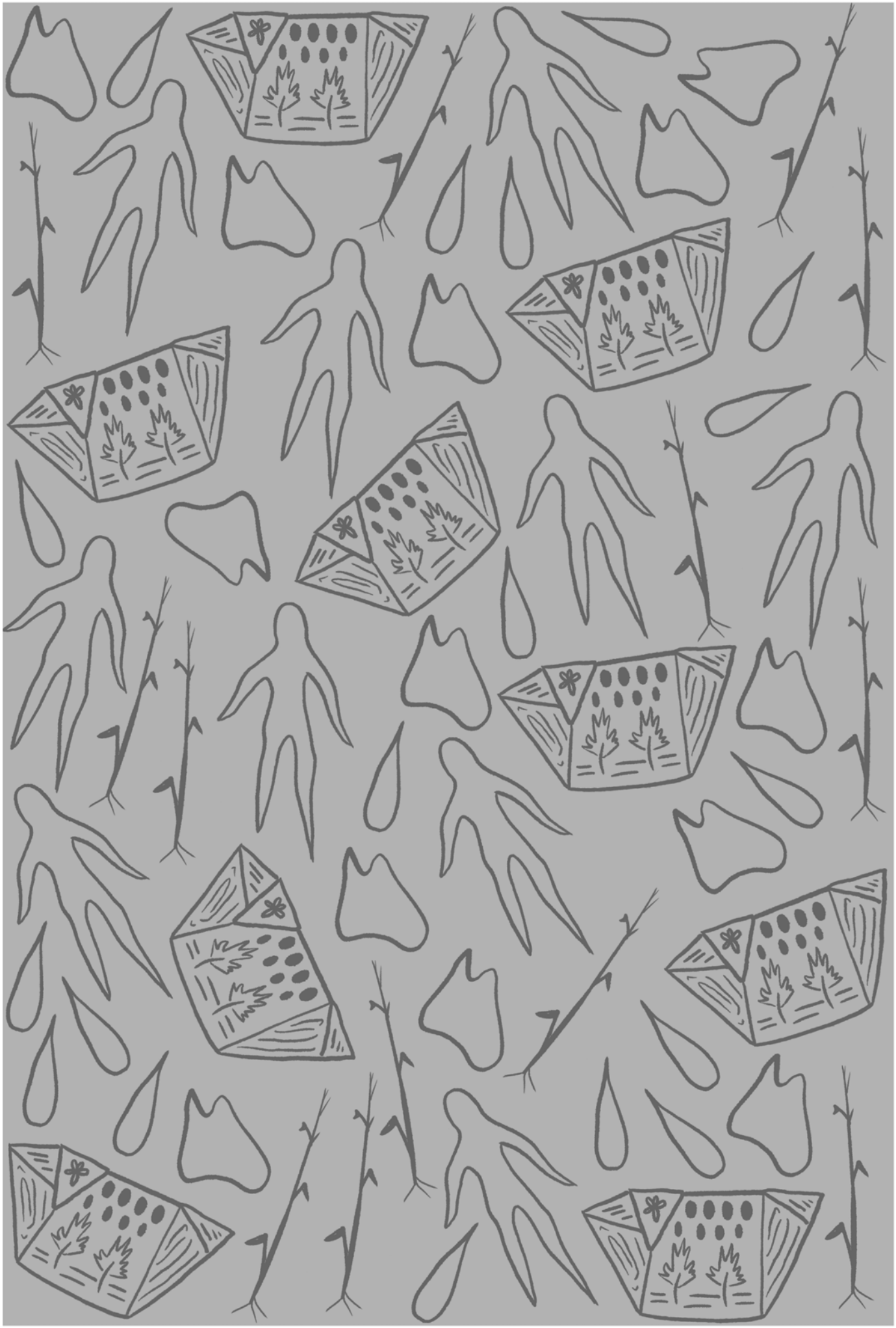
canteen

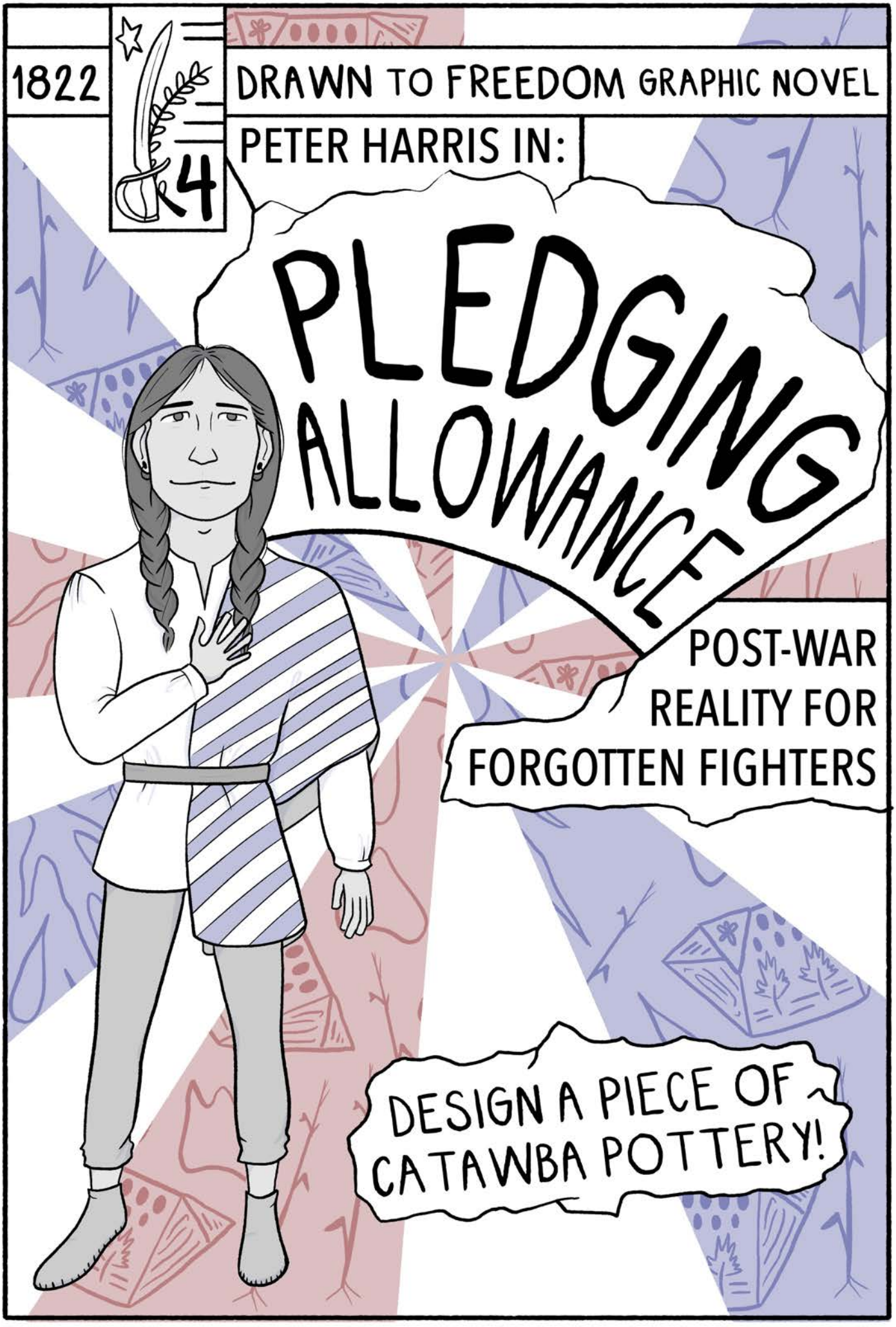


knife



sweet potatoes




1822
DRAWN TO FREEDOM GRAPHIC NOVEL
4
PETER HARRIS IN:
PLEDGING ALLOWANCE
POST-WAR REALITY FOR FORGOTTEN FIGHTERS
DESIGN A PIECE OF CATAWBA POTTERY!

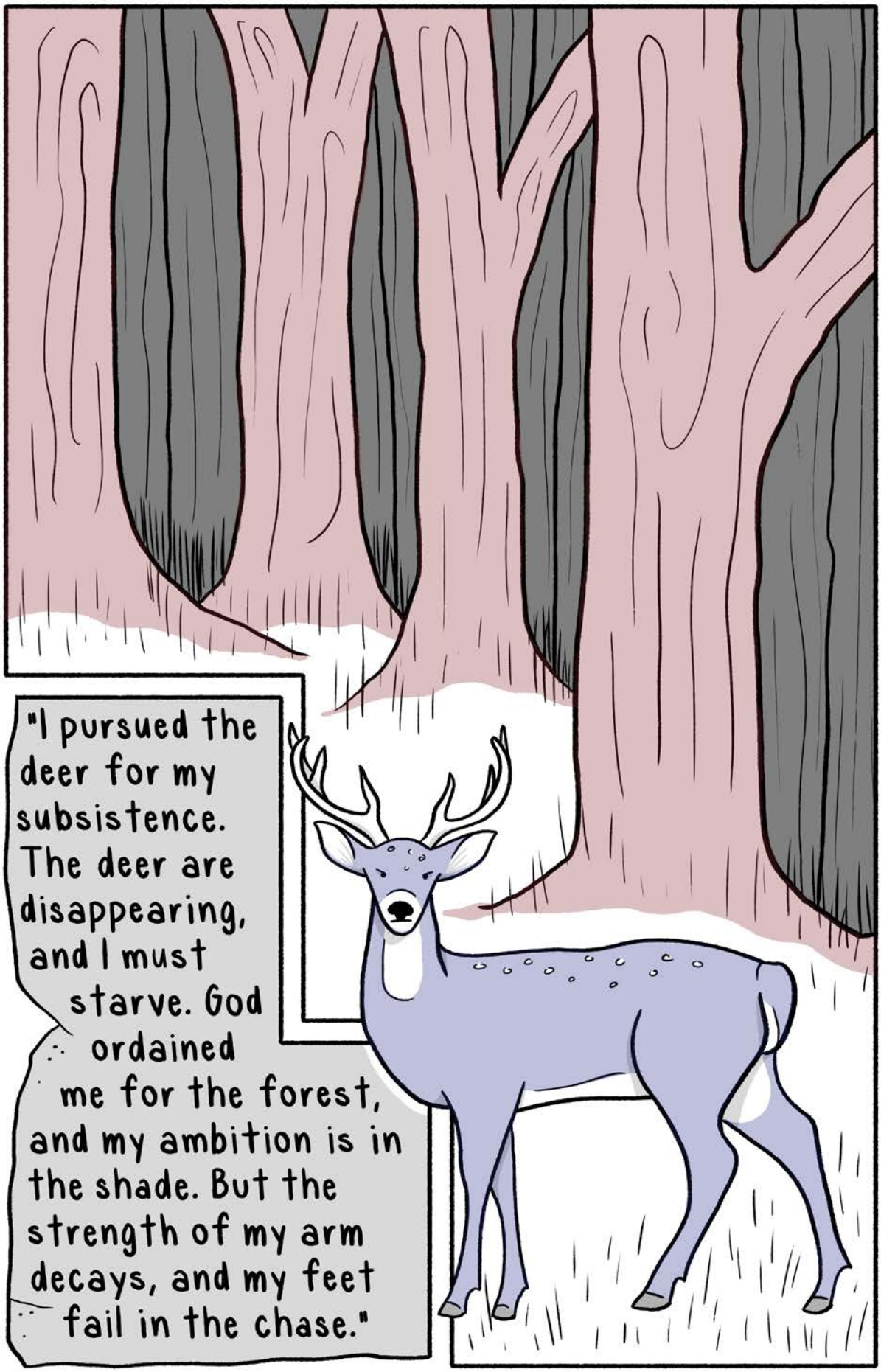
Peter Harris, like many members of the Catawba Nation, enlisted to support the Patriot cause. He was 24 when he first saw combat at the 1777 Battle of Stono Ferry.

Peter fought with the Georgia and South Carolina Militias and the 3d South Carolina Regiment at Rocky Mount, Hanging Rock, and Blackstock's Farm. After the war, Peter toured England performing Catawba song and dance with other men of his tribe. When he returned to the US, Peter found that the resources on which the Catawba once relied, were dwindling...

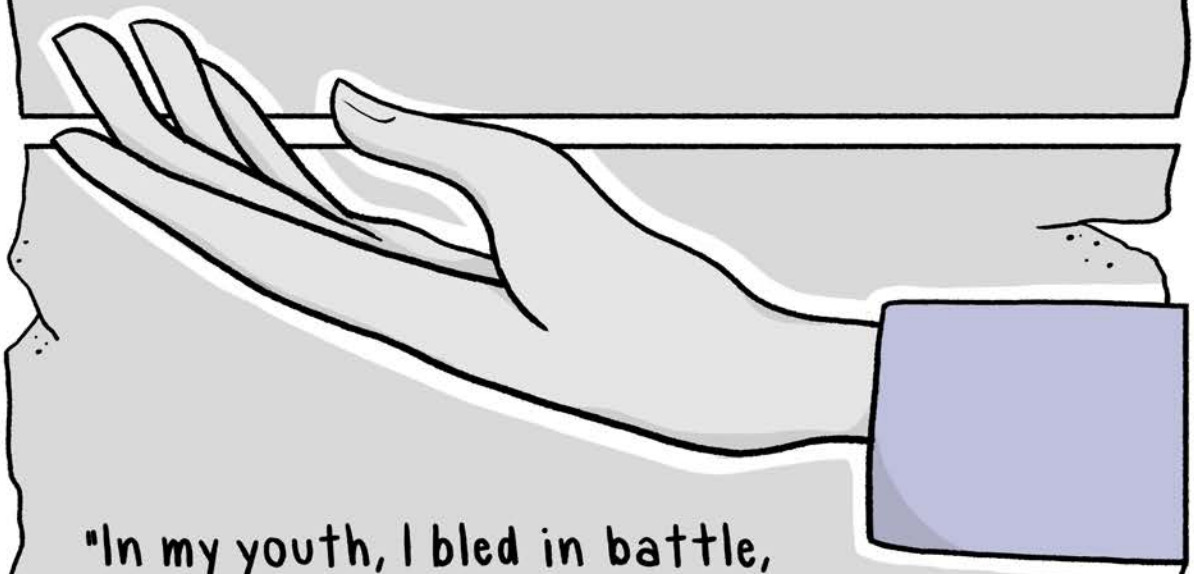
The following pension request was submitted by Peter to the South Carolina Senate in 1822.

To the Councils of South Carolina:
the Memorial of Peter Harris,
Warrior of the Catawba Nation
in the War of Independence
"I am one of the lingering
embers of an almost
extinguished race."

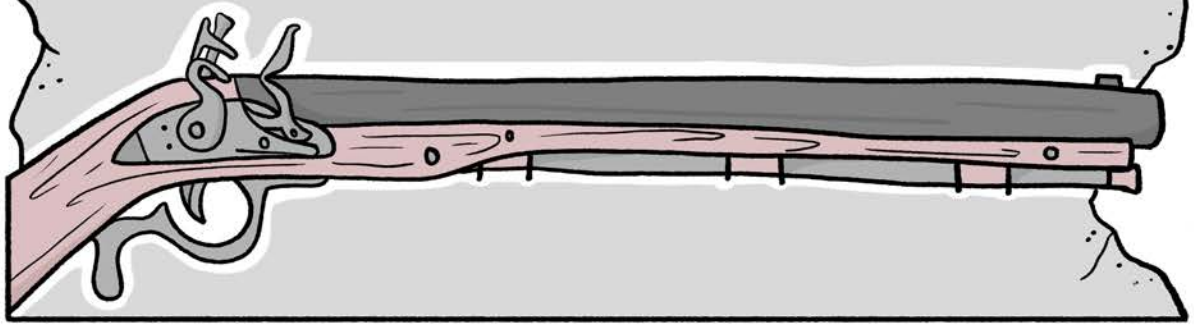
"Our graves will soon be our only habitations."
"I am one of the few stalks that remain in the field where the tempest of the Revolution passed."
"I fought against the British for your sake. The British have disappeared, and you are free. Yet from me, the British took nothing, nor have I gained anything by their defeat."


"I pursued the deer for my subsistence. The deer are disappearing, and I must starve. God ordained me for the forest, and my ambition is in the shade. But the strength of my arm decays, and my feet fail in the chase."

"The hand which fought for your liberties,
is now open for your relief."

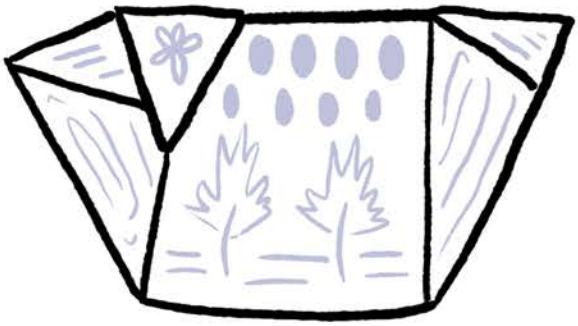


"In my youth, I bled in battle,
that you might be
independent."



"Let not my heart, in my old age, bleed,
for want of your commiseration."

-Peter Harris



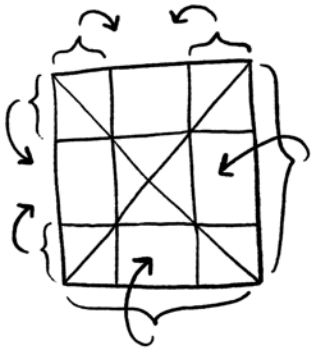
Catawba Pottery is well known for its craftsmanship and quality. The Catawba frequently traded pottery in the 1700s for European and American goods like textiles, firearms, and tools.

The Catawba decorate their pottery by pressing plants or their fingers against wet clay to leave indentations. Animals and nature motifs are common in Catawba artwork.

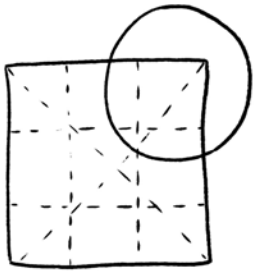
Decorate and fold your own paper bowl. Use an ink pad to make designs with fingerprints, leaves, and flowers. Use crayon rubbing to create textures from tree bark and other surfaces.

a printable copy of this activity is available at schistory.org/education/resources

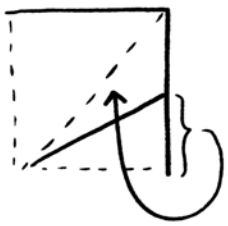
Once your paper is decorated, it is ready to be folded into a bowl:



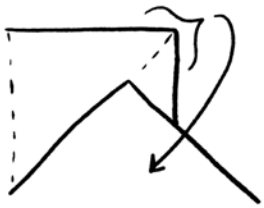
1: fold the paper along the lines to create creases, diagonally and into thirds



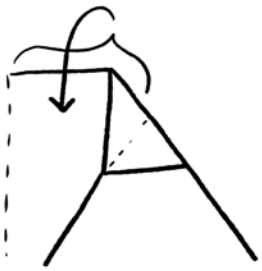
2: flip over your paper, and begin working in one corner



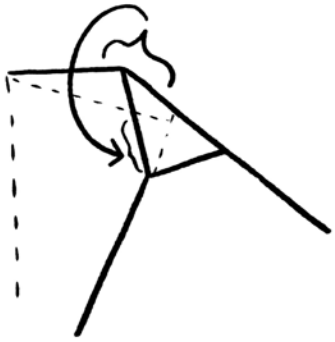
3: fold the edge of the paper up to the diagonal crease



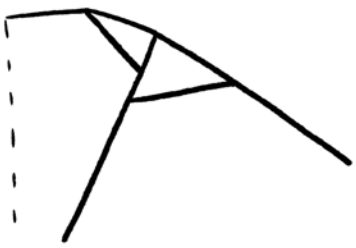
4: fold the corner down



5: fold the top corner down

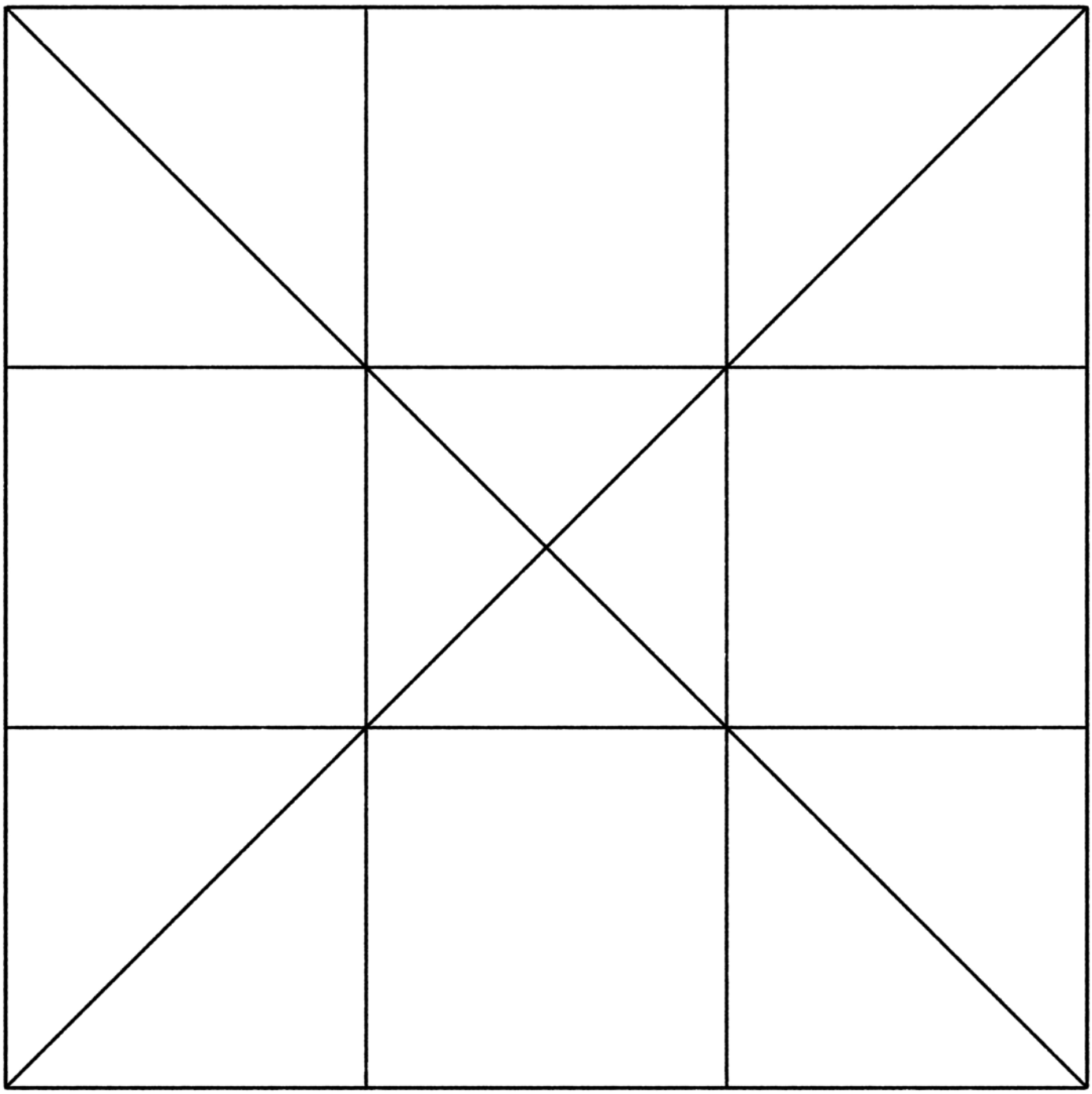


6: unfold the top corner and use the crease to tuck the corner under the flap formed by the edge of the paper

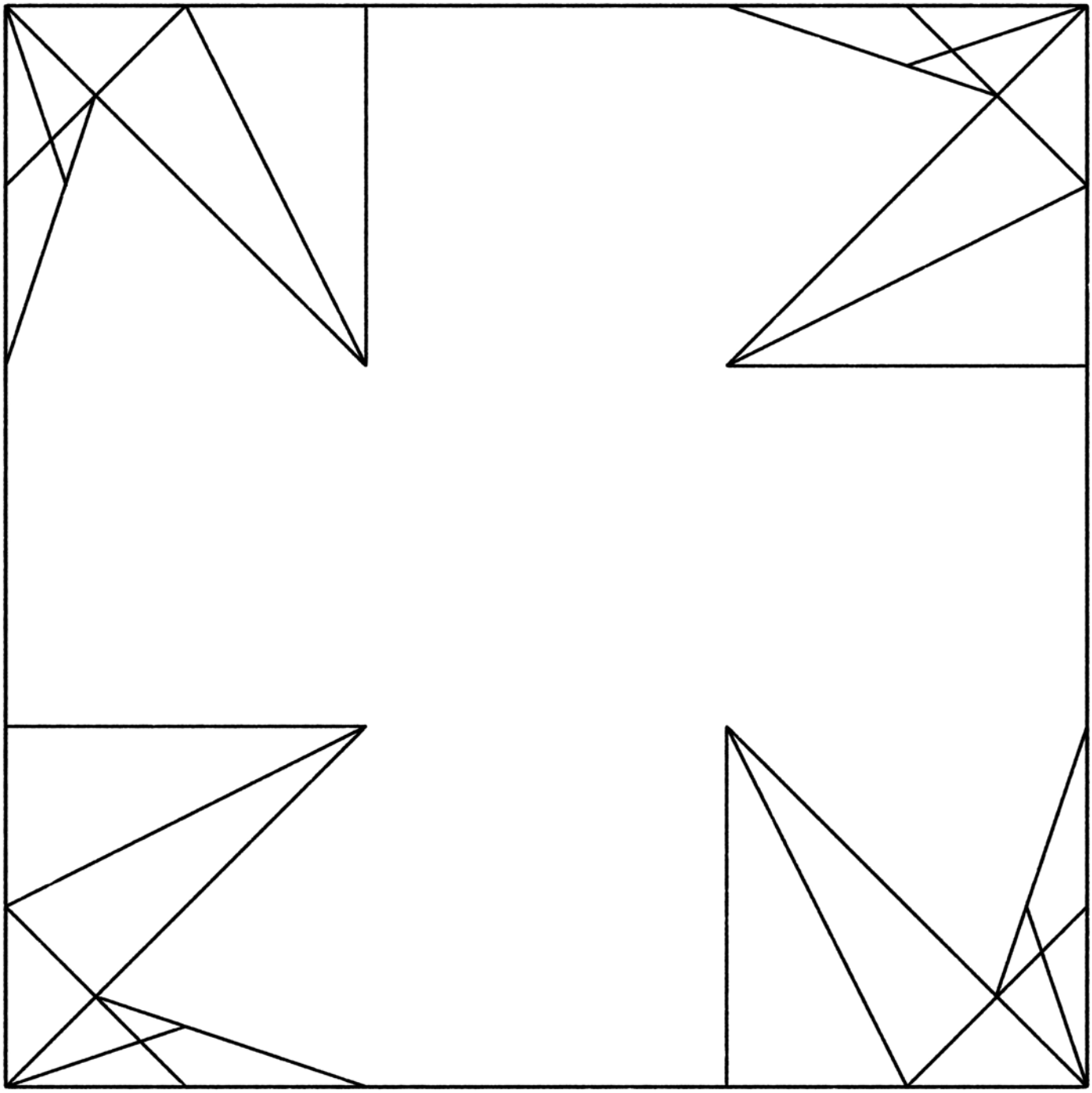


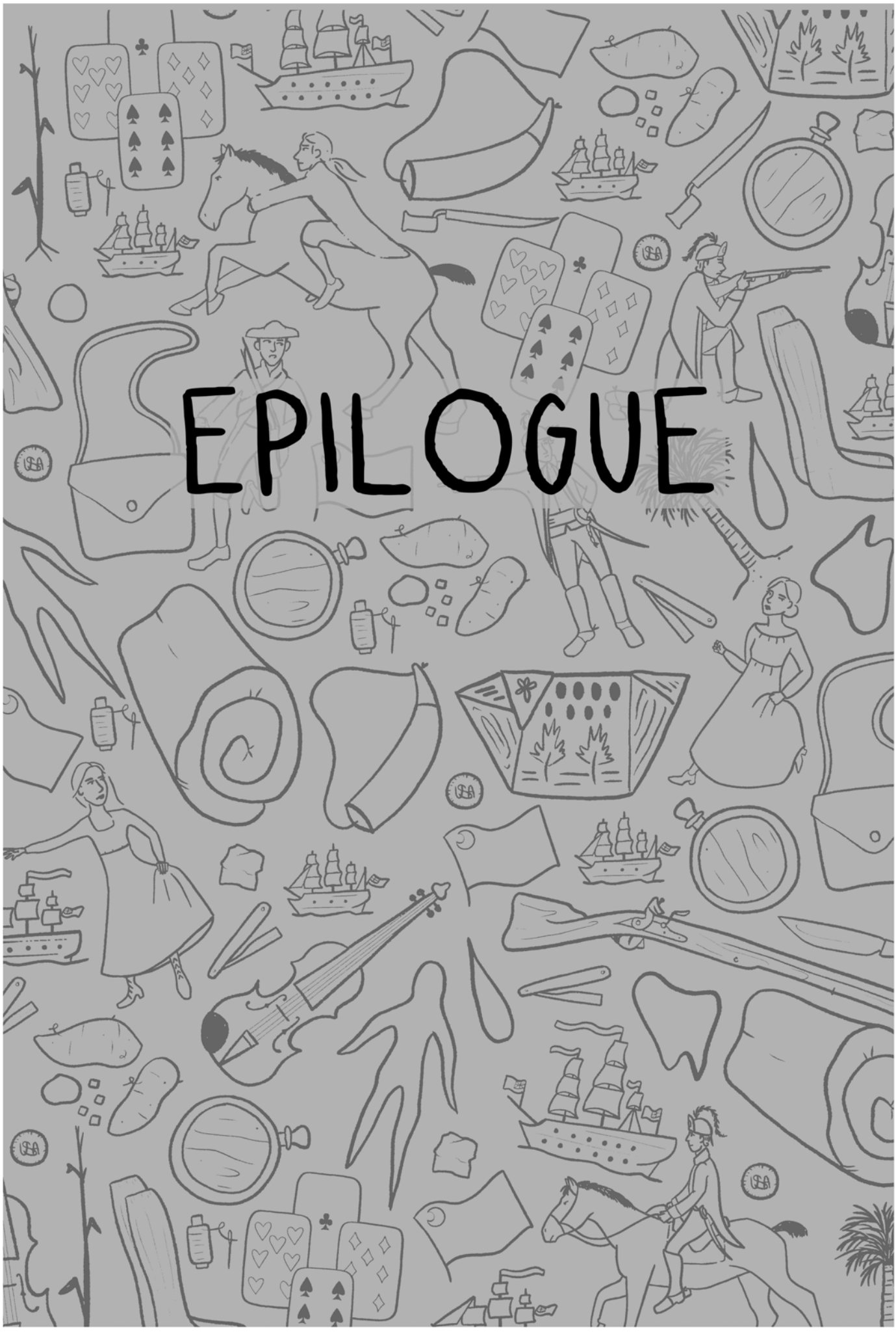
7: with the corner secured, repeat steps 3-6 for each corner to form a bowl

INSIDE OF BOWL



OUTSIDE OF BOWL

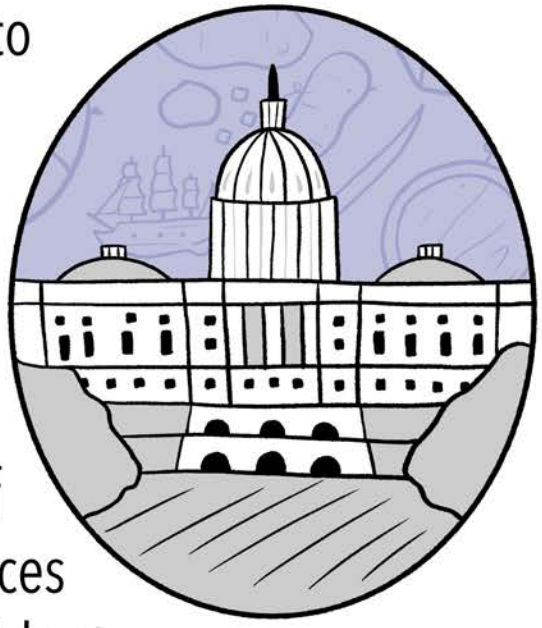



EPILOGUE

William refused an officer's commission and continued to lead by example within the ranks. The 2d fought at the Siege of Savannah in 1779, where William gave his life protecting the 2d Regiment Banner. A statue in Savannah's Madison Square was dedicated in 1888 to honor "the glory of the Irish-American soldier whose last tribute to civil liberty was his life."

Eliza moved to Black Swamp plantation near the Savannah River where she married Peter Porcher and raised four children. Her account of the Revolution remained private in the letters she had written her friend and future half sister-in-law, Mary Porcher, during the War. After Eliza's death in the early 1800s, her letters were published in magazines and anthologies.

Oscar remained enslaved to the Marion family his entire life, like seven generations of his ancestors. In 2006, Oscar was recognized for his "devoted and selfless consecration to the service of our country in the Armed Forces of the United States" by President George W. Bush at the US Capitol.



Peter was granted his pension of $60 per year on 21 December 1822, one year before his death. His epitaph at Spratt Graveyard reads: "The body of Peter Harris, a Catawba Indian, by his last request was buried here 1823. Aged 70 years. Left an orphan, he was raised by Thomas Spratt sen'r. Like all his tribe he was friendly to the Americans and for his services in our war of Independence received a pension from the State."

Fighting ended in South Carolina with the Battle of Eutaw Springs on 8 September 1781, a costly Pyrrhic victory for the British as they withdrew from the South. A month later, the British surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia.

The Treaty of Paris formally established the independence of the United States, and the difficult task of building a new nation founded on the ideals of the Declaration began.

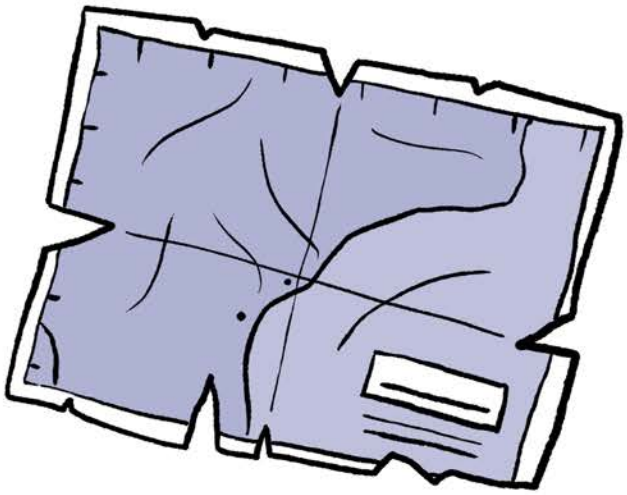
In 1788, the Constitution of the United States was ratified. It established the responsibilities of the government to the people, and the laws and rights by which the people were governed.

But the Constitution did not include everyone. The rights of women, people of color, and Indigenous people were limited. Rules contained within the Constitution allowed for it to be changed to reflect a growing country.

The Constitution has been amended 27 times, and has been interpreted and applied by Congress and the Supreme Court to issue Acts and Court Rulings. These amendments, acts, and rulings have transformed the rights of the people, and have broadened the meanings of liberty and equality.

How would the past 250 years of American History look to the people who fought for it?

Consider the events that would impact
William, Eliza, Oscar, and Peter...

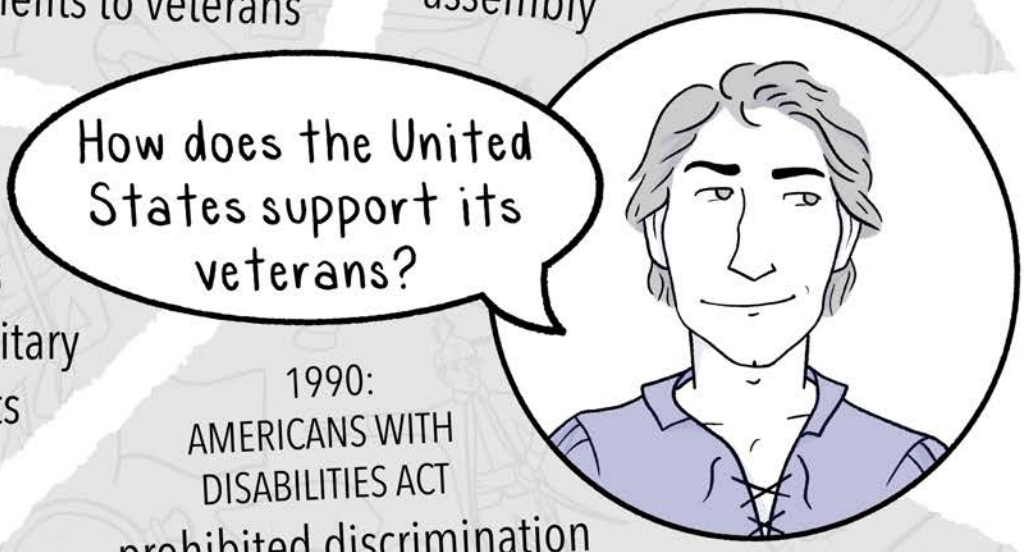


AMERICAN RESOLUTIONS

1930: VETERANS AFFAIRS
established to provide healthcare, education, housing, and burial benefits to veterans

1791: AMENDMENT I
freedoms of speech & assembly

1971: AMENDMENT XXVI
voting age lowered to 18 following military draft protests



1990: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
prohibited discrimination against people with disabilities, including disabled veterans, and expanded accessibility in public spaces

1920: AMENDMENT XIX
women granted right to vote

1963: EQUAL PAY ACT
gender pay discrimination prohibited

1972: TITLE IX
gender discrimination prohibited in federally funded programs

2021: WOMAN VICE PRESIDENT
Kamala Harris was sworn in as the first woman Vice President of the United States. It is the highest government office to be held by a woman.

1865: AMENDMENT XIII
slavery abolished

1870: AMENDMENT XV
men of color & previously enslaved men granted right to vote

1868: AMENDMENT XIV
citizenship for people born & naturalized in the US

1954: *BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION*
public schools desegregated

1964: CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
racial discrimination & segregation made illegal

1965: VOTING RIGHTS ACT
racial voting discrimination prohibited

2013: BLACK LIVES MATTER
brought awareness to racial discrimination and police brutality through large scale protests and social media campaigns

1968: INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
rights & protections for Indigenous people

1924: SNYDER ACT
Indigenous people granted citizenship & right to vote

1994: FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE LIST ACT
normalized government-to-government relations between tribes and the US. Government aid was expanded to 574 recognized tribes, including the Catawba Nation.

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additional resources available at **schistory.org**

ABOUT

Melina Testin is a Military Historian and Graphic Novelist.

Melina works as the Education Coordinator at the South Carolina Historical Society.

The **South Carolina Historical Society**, founded in 1855, is the state's oldest and largest private manuscript repository.

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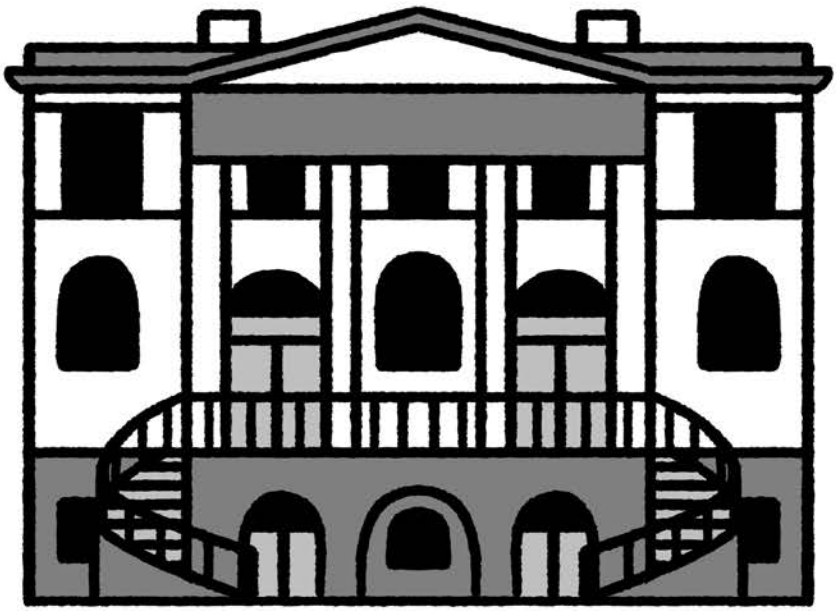

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Oscar Marion
Man Enslaved to a Continental Army Officer

Peter Harris
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